

# ***Unit Strategic Fire Plan***

## ***SISKIYOU UNIT***



*Last update: 25 April 2013*

## UNIT STRATEGIC FIRE PLAN AMENDMENTS

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## SIGNATURE PAGE

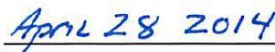
### Unit Strategic Fire Plan developed for Siskiyou Unit

This Plan:

- Was collaboratively developed. Interested parties, Federal, State, City, and County agencies within the Unit have been consulted and are listed in the plan.
- Identifies and prioritizes pre fire and post fire management strategies and tactics meant to reduce the loss of values at risk within the Unit.
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only. It is the responsibility of those implementing the projects to ensure that all environmental compliance and permitting processes are met as necessary.



Unit Chief (Acting)  
Ron Bravo



Date



Pre-Fire Engineer  
Steve Wilson



Date

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Siskiyou County is located in inland northern California, adjacent to the Oregon border and is a mosaic of dramatic environmental diversity. Siskiyou County is the fifth largest county in California by area and is larger than Connecticut and Rhode Island combined. The County features spectacular natural beauty and scenic cities and towns drawing thousands of people annually for recreation and travel. The area is one of the most ecologically diverse regions in the world. Much of the extraordinary biodiversity is due to the fact that the region escaped extensive glaciation during recent ice ages. Several western mountain ranges converge and are the transitional mixing of various habitat types. Geographically, it has considerable topographical extremes from lush valley floors to the alpine peaks of Mt Shasta. Portions of the County are heavily influenced by volcanic forces. Mt Shasta, the centerpiece of Siskiyou County, is an active volcano. The region has several key watershed values. These watersheds serve and support critical water storage, agriculture, and endangered species habitat for the region and the State.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CAL FIRE) Siskiyou Unit covers over 6,347 square miles and has the primary wildland fire responsibility for 1,269,672 acres. The economy is as diverse as the landscape with timber industry leading the way closely followed by agriculture and livestock production. Siskiyou County has nine incorporated cities Yreka, Fort Jones, Etna, Weed, Mt. Shasta, Dorris, Dunsmuir, Montague and Tulelake. Each city has local responsibility for fire protection within their respective cities. The area outside the cities that falls within the local responsibility area (LRA) is very small and includes the valley floors within the Butte Valley, Shasta Valley and Scott Valley. The Siskiyou County residential population is nearly 45,000 of which almost half live in the unincorporated areas of the county.

The Siskiyou Unit Fire Plan is a framework established to help protect the people and resources of Siskiyou County. The reduction of loss and cost associated with unwanted fires will continue to be the main focus of the plan. Siskiyou County has an extensive fire history. Historically, the leading cause of fires in the County has been lightning. Through collaborative relationships with federal and local departments we have been successful at keeping the majority of the fires small. We will continue to collaborate with stakeholders, fire departments and local fire safe councils on projects outlined in this plan.

Siskiyou County is a land of many uses and natural wonders. Through collaborative efforts and hard work the Unit Fire Plan will guide us toward a more fire safe community. Our Fire Plan will be diligently implemented and reassessed yearly allowing us to adapt to the ever changing needs of Siskiyou County.

Ronald A. Bravo  
Siskiyou Unit Chief (Acting)

## SECTION I: UNIT OVERVIEW

### UNIT DESCRIPTION

The Siskiyou Unit (SKU) is located in Northern California along the Oregon border and is comprised of Siskiyou County. The Siskiyou Unit encompasses 1.2 million acres of ecologically diverse wildlands. Ecotypes range from high desert in the east, to the magnificent coniferous forests of the Klamath River drainage to the lush ranch lands carpeting the interior valleys. Magnificent Mt. Shasta serves as the Unit's geographical centerpiece rising abruptly to an astonishing 14,179 feet in elevation. The County is drained by the Sacramento River in the south, the Klamath River in the north and the Salmon River in the west.

The weather patterns in Siskiyou County are as diverse as its ecology. Summer temperatures may climb into the 100's, while winter temperatures may drop well below freezing with significant snowstorms common throughout the winter months. Fuel types in the Unit include timber, timber with a grass understory, grass, brush, oak woodland, desert sage and western juniper stands. Like most mountainous areas, Siskiyou County may experience a high occurrence of lightning activity during the summer months. Ranching, recreation and the timber industry fuel Siskiyou County's economy. The summer months see a large influx of tourists who take advantage of the County's wide-open spaces for outdoor recreation including, hunting, fishing, white-water rafting, mountain climbing and camping.

Most of the large fires in the Siskiyou Unit over the past 50 years have been wind driven fires. Lightning, equipment use and debris burning have historically been the determined lead ignition sources for these large fires.

The Klamath National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management are the largest public land ownerships adjacent to the Unit. Other public lands include the Shasta Valley, Horseshoe Ranch, Butte Valley, Lower Klamath and Tulelake Wildlife Refuge Areas.

In June of 2010, the Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) released *California's Forest and Rangelands: 2010 Assessment*. As part of the assessment, states were required to identify key issues and define the status and trends throughout the forests. Furthermore, states were asked to identify specific geographic areas, called "priority landscapes". The intent of identifying "priority landscapes" was to assist investment and other programs focusing on the issue areas. The assessment identifies forest and rangeland issues throughout the state including Siskiyou County. The assessment also identifies strategies to address these issues. The complete assessment can be found on the CAL FIRE FRAP Website. The "priority landscapes" identified within the Siskiyou Unit will be considered during the planning phase of future projects within the Unit. The following "priority landscapes" and strategies have been identified within the Siskiyou Unit:

#### *Wildfire Threats to Ecosystem Health and Community Safety*

Developing coherent strategies involves collaborative planning, given the unique and disparate audience for dealing with the threat (i.e., numerous individual landowners). In terms of protecting communities, this is discussed in detail in Chapter 3.3: Planning for and Reducing Wildfire Risks to Communities.

### *Sustainable Working Forests and Rangelands*

Opportunities exist for landowner assistance to enhance productivity and health of working landscapes. Risk Reduction on Forestlands: Identifies areas with timber and biomass energy assets that are threatened by wildfire and forest pests. Risk Reduction on Rangelands; identifies areas where rangeland productivity is threatened by wildfire. Restoring Impacted Timberlands: identifies areas with timber and biomass energy assets that have been impacted by past wildfires or forest pest outbreaks.

### *Forest Pests and Other Threats to Ecosystem Health and Community Safety*

Forest management tools include the removal of dead, dying and diseased trees, thinning of small and medium live trees, replanting multiple species, and other techniques used to remove hazards and improve ecosystem health. In California, responsibility for the control of forest pest outbreaks often falls to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) on state and privately owned lands and the U.S. Forest Service on federal lands. CAL FIRE, with the approval of the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BOF), can declare a zone of infestation for native and exotic insect and disease pests. Within a Zone of Infestation CAL FIRE employees may go on private lands to attempt eradication or control in a manner approved by the Board of Forestry.

### *Water Quality and Quantity Protection and Enhancement*

Protecting and managing forests in source watersheds is an essential part of future strategies for providing a sustainable supply of clean water for a broad range of beneficial uses. Tools to address threats to water supplies include: water conservation, restoration of riparian forests, restoration of mountain meadows, and protection of groundwater. Tools to address water quality concerns include: reduction of soil erosion through Best Management Practices for forest roads and timber harvesting, additional protection for riparian areas in salmonid watersheds, road maintenance and fuel reduction treatments designed to reduce high severity wildfires.

### *Planning for Reducing Wildfire Risks to Communities*

In California, community involvement in wildfire planning is extensive, as evidenced for example, by Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), as defined under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003), local and regional Fire Safe Councils, Resource Conservation Districts and community participation in the federal Firewise Communities/USA program. State laws requiring “defensible space” around structures, building codes, and other responsibilities are aimed at helping communities reduce their risk of loss when wildfire strikes. Federal programs, such as the National Fire Plan, also help with funding for fire hazard reduction.

### *Emerging Markets for Forests and Rangeland Products and Services*

Strengthen and develop new market opportunities for forest products and benefits provide incentives for forest stewardship and conservation. Emerging markets for renewable energy, ecosystem services and niche products are impacting how forest and rangelands are managed. Developing appropriate policies will require a better understanding of the benefits and environmental impacts of these emerging markets and how society values the various market and non-market products and services provided by forests and rangelands.

### *Plant, Wildlife, and Fish Habitat Protection, Conservation and Enhancement*

Numerous efforts in California are working towards identifying and protecting important wildlife, plant, and fish habitat. Tools for addressing wildlife habitat needs include the purchase of land and conservation easements, development planning, zoning, habitat mitigation banking, and habitat restoration, and policies, regulations and funding mechanisms that support these efforts.

*Climate Change: Threats and Opportunities*

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has identified five strategies to mitigate against greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions: reforestation, forestland conservation, fuels reduction, urban forestry and forest management to improve carbon sequestration.



## UNIT PREPAREDNESS AND FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITIES

At the peak of firefighting preparedness, Siskiyou Unit suppression resources include approximately 70 career personnel and 120 seasonal personnel. The Siskiyou Unit is geographically divided into four fire battalions. Within these battalions the Siskiyou Unit has resources and facilities strategically located. These include: seven fire stations, one conservation camp, two dozers, and four fire lookouts. During summer months, thirteen schedule "B" engines, two dozers, four fire crews, and up to four fire lookouts are staffed. The fire lookouts are staffed based upon fire, weather and lightning activity levels. In the winter months, Siskiyou Unit staffs three stations with fiscal assistance from the County Amador Plan and the Zone of Increased Benefit (ZIB) in the McCloud area.

The Siskiyou Unit has an Emergency Command Center known as the Yreka Interagency Command Center (YICC). The YICC is located at the Siskiyou Unit Headquarters in Yreka and is a collaboration of CAL FIRE and United States Forest Service (USFS) staff. The YICC provides dispatching services for CAL FIRE, USFS, 30 local government departments and 5 ambulance companies. The YICC is responsible for emergency call taking, dispatching and tracking of resources. The YICC has an Emergency Dispatcher at the console 24 hours a day. The Goal of the YICC is to meet and exceed the standards set in NFPA 1221 section 6.4.2. These standards specify that 95 percent of all alarms be answered within 15 seconds and 99 percent answered within 40 seconds. In addition, Section 6.4.3 specifies that 95 percent of all dispatching be completed within 60 seconds.

Battalion 1 (Scott Valley Battalion) is located in the northwest portion of the Unit. Within the Battalion there is a CAL FIRE station located in the Fort Jones City. The Fort Jones Station houses three Type III fire engines and one Type II fire dozer. Deadwood Conservation Camp is located north of Fort Jones along McAdams Creek. Deadwood is a 90 man camp and is capable of providing four Type I hand crews. There are two fire lookouts located within the Scott Valley Battalion, Quartz Hill and Duzel Rock.

Battalion 2 (Shasta Valley Battalion) is centrally located in the northern portion of the Unit. Within the Shasta Valley Battalion there are two CAL FIRE stations. One station is in Yreka and one is located in Hornbook. The Yreka Station is considered the headquarters station and houses three Type III fire engines and one Type II dozer. Hornbook Station is located along Interstate 5 near the California and Oregon border in the town of Hornbrook. This station houses two Type III fire engines. Paradise Craggy serves as the fire lookout for the Shasta Valley Battalion.

Battalion 3 (Butte Valley Battalion) can be identified on a map as two distinct geographical areas separated by Federal Direct Protection Area. One portion of the Butte Valley Battalion is located in the central portion of the Unit near the City of Weed. The other is located in the northeast portion of the Unit and includes the Butte Valley and extends north to the Oregon border. Within the Butte Valley Battalion there are two CAL FIRE stations. One station is located in the Weed City. The Weed Station houses two Type III fire engines and serves as the battalion headquarters. The second station is located in the town of Macdoel. Macdoel Station houses one Type III engine.

Battalion 4 (McCloud Battalion) is located in the southern portion of the Unit. Within the McCloud Battalion there are two CAL FIRE stations. One is located in McCloud and the other is located in Pondosa. McCloud Station houses two Type III fire engines. Pondosa Station is located within Shasta County, but is staffed and administered by the Siskiyou Unit. Pondosa Station houses two Type III fire engines. Siskiyou Bear serves as a fire lookout in the McCloud Battalion.

## LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS

The Siskiyou Unit is very appreciative of its local fire departments. A large number of these departments are staffed completely by volunteers and whose personnel are often the first to arrive at fires, medical aids and other types of emergencies. Often these departments are located within Fire Protection Districts (FPDs) or Community Services Districts (CSDs) and are typically governed by elected boards of directors and have authority to levy taxes to support their work. Within The Siskiyou Unit, CAL FIRE reciprocates emergency services using Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid Agreements.

The following local fire departments exist within the Siskiyou Unit:

Etna City Fire Department	South Yreka Fire District
Fort Jones City Fire Department	City of Yreka Fire Department
Scott Valley Fire Protection District	Butte Valley Fire Protection District
Happy Camp Fire District	Dorris City Fire Department
Copco Lake Fire Protection District	Seiad Valley Fire Company
Gazelle Fire Protection District	Tennant Community Services District
Grenada Fire Protection District	Tulelake Fire Department
Hammond Ranch Fire Company	Weed City Fire Department
Hilt Fire Protection District	Lake Shastina Community Service District
Hornbrook Fire Protection District	Castella Fire Protection District
Klamath River Fire Company	Dunsmuir City Fire Department
Mayten Fire Protection District	McCloud Community Services District
Montague Community Services District	Mt Shasta City Fire Department
Mt. Shasta Vista Fire Company	Mount Shasta Fire Protection District
Salmon River Fire Company	Pleasant Valley Fire Company



## SECTION II: COLLABORATION

### COMMUNITY / AGENCIES / FIRE SAFE COUNCILS

Representatives involved in the development of the Unit Strategic Fire Plan are included in the following table. Their organization and title are indicated below:

#### Plan Development Team:

Organization	Title
Fire Safe Council Siskiyou County	Fire Safe Council Members
Lower Scott River FSC/Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
French Creek FSC/Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Scott Valley FSC/Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Yreka Area FSC/ Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Juniper Flat FSC/Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Rattlesnake Creek FSC/Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Upper Mid Klamath Watershed Council/ Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Scott Bar FSC/ Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Seiad Creek FSC/ Northern California Resource Center	Fire Safe Council Members
Happy Camp Fire Safe Council	Fire Safe Council Members
Greater Weed Fire Safe Council	Fire Safe Council Members
Dunsmuir Fire Safe Council	Fire Safe Council Members
Mt. Shasta Fire Safe Council	Fire Safe Council Members
Weed City Fire Department	Fire Chief
Etna City Fire Department	Fire Chief
Fort Jones City	Elected Officials
Siskiyou County Wildfire Protection Panel	Chairperson
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors	Elected Officials

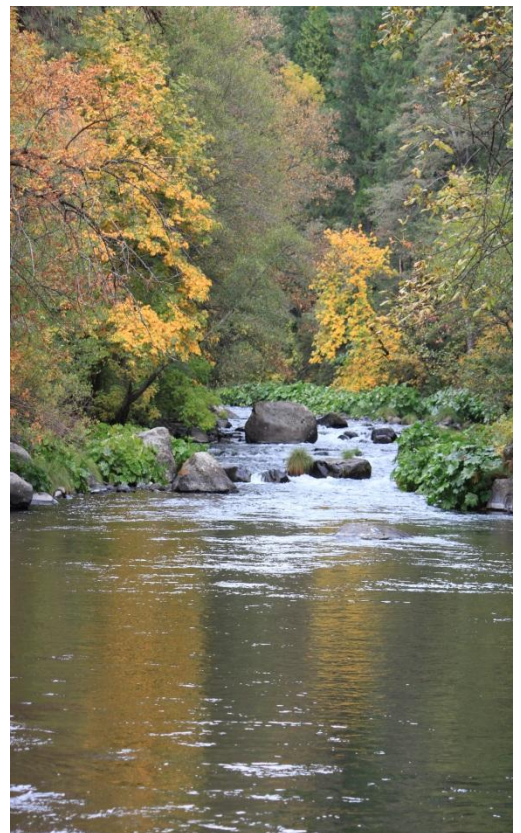
## SECTION III: VALUES

### A: VALUES

It is the goal of the Siskiyou Unit to protect life and property from the devastating effects of wildfire and other natural disasters. The Siskiyou Unit is vast in size and varied in its makeup of both natural and man-made assets at risk to wildfires.

The following are values identified at risk in the Siskiyou Unit:

- Citizen and firefighter safety
- Structures, residential and commercial
- Watershed and water
- Timber
- Rangelands
- Wildlife and associated habitat
- Infrastructure
- Air quality
- Unique areas (scenic, cultural, and historic)
- Recreation
- Soil erosion
- Hydro electric power



## B: COMMUNITIES

To help protect people and their property from potential catastrophic wildfire, the National Fire Plan directs funding to be provided for projects designed to reduce the fire risks to communities. A fundamental step in achieving this goal was the identification of communities that are at high risk of damage from wildfire. These high risk communities identified within the wildland-urban interface (WUI), the area where homes and wildlands intermix, were published in the Federal Register in 2001. At the request of Congress, the Federal Register notice only listed those communities neighboring federal lands. The list represents the collaborative work of the 50 states and five federal agencies using a standardized process, whereby states were asked to submit all communities within their borders that met the criteria of a structure at high risk from wildfire.

The “Communities at Risk” in Siskiyou County listed in the table below are on the National Registry available at the following site: [http://www.cafirealliance.org/communities\\_at\\_risk\\_a-d.php](http://www.cafirealliance.org/communities_at_risk_a-d.php).

Community	Federal Threat	Community	Federal Threat
Big Springs	F	Lower Scott River	F
Callahan	F	Macdoel	
Cecilville	F	McCloud	F
Dorris	F	Montague	
Dunsmuir		Mount Shasta	F
Etna		Quartz Valley Indian Reservation	F
Fort Jones	F	Sawyers Bar	F
Gazelle		Scott Bar	F
Greenview	F	Seiad Valley	F
Grenada		Somes Bar	F
Hamburg	F	Tennant	F
Happy Camp	F	Tulelake	F
Hornbrook	F	Weed	F
Horse Creek	F	Yreka	F
Klamath River	F		

1. Federal Threat code of **F** indicates some or all of the wildland fire threat to that community comes from federal (e.g., US Forest Service, BLM,) lands.



## FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES

While all of Siskiyou County is subject to some degree of fire hazard, there are specific features that make some areas more hazardous than others. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is required by law to map areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather, and other relevant factors. These maps were developed using science-based and field tested computer models that assign a hazard score based on factors that influence fire likelihood and fire behavior. Many factors are considered such as fire history, existing and potential fuel (natural vegetation), flame length, blowing embers, terrain, and typical weather for the area. There are three hazard zones in state responsibility areas: moderate, high and very high. These maps identify fire hazard, not fire risk. "Hazard" is based on the physical conditions that give a likelihood that an area will burn over a 30-50 year period without considering modifications such as fuel reduction efforts. "Risk" is the potential damage a fire can do to the area under existing conditions, including any modifications such as defensible space, irrigation and sprinklers, and ignition resistant building construction which can reduce fire risk. Risk considers the susceptibility of what is being protected. Risk considers the susceptibility of what is being protected.

These maps are intended to be used for:

- Implementing wildland-urban interface building standards for new construction.
- Natural hazard real estate disclosure at time of sale.
- 100-foot defensible space clearance requirements around buildings.
- Property development standards such as road widths, water supply and signage.
- Consideration in city and county general plans.

Visit the CAL FIRE Website at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov) to determine the fire hazard severity in a specific area.



## SECTION IV: PRE-FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

### A: FIRE PREVENTION



The Siskiyou Unit Fire Prevention Bureau is comprised of a Battalion Chief, two Fire Captains and a Fire Prevention Specialist II. Fire Prevention activities include, but are not limited to, all of the following: fire prevention education, hazardous fuel reduction, and vegetation management, civil cost recovery, forest and fire law enforcement, fire prevention engineering, pre-fire planning, risk analysis, volunteer programs and partnerships. In general, these programs have been shown to be highly effective at reducing the incidence of fire. The Siskiyou Unit contributes its success to the utilization of these main fire prevention components. In addition, the Prevention Bureau prides itself on providing quality public service in a timely, accurate, and courteous manner.

## ENGINEERING & STRUCTURE IGNITABILITY

### Public Resources Code 4290

These regulations have been prepared and adopted for establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with building, construction and development in State Responsibility Areas (SRA). These regulations became effective September 1, 1991. The future design and construction of structures, subdivisions and developments in State Responsibility Area (SRA) shall provide for basic emergency access and perimeter wildfire protection measures as specified in Public Resources Code (PRC 4290). These measures shall provide for emergency access, signing and building numbering, private water supply reserves for emergency fire use, and vegetation modification. The fire protection standards contained within PRC 4290 shall specify the minimums for such measures. The Unit enforces PRC 4290 in its original form. The county has not yet increased these standards.

The County of Siskiyou is currently in the process of developing a *Land Development Manual for Improvement Standards and Specifications*. The County's purpose of adopting standards for development of land in Siskiyou County is to protect the health and safety of its citizens, and to minimize or avoid environmental consequences. When complete, this manual will reference Public Resources Code 4290 and include provisions requiring applicable improvements to either meet or exceed these regulations.





## Public Resources Code 4291

One of the main objectives of the Siskiyou Unit is to ensure residents comply with the provisions set forth within California Public Resources Code 4291. This is accomplished through education and enforcement. It is important residents recognize that their first defense against wildfire is to create and maintain defensible space around their homes.

California Public Resources Code 4291 requires property owners in mountainous areas, forest-covered lands, or any land that is covered with flammable material to create at a minimum a 100-foot defensible space (or to the property line) around their homes and other structures.

The state legislature enacted PRC 4291 to improve fire safety and to help prevent catastrophic fires. Under the law, property owners or those who control a property must establish a:

- 30-foot clean zone (or to property line)
- 70-foot reduced fuel zone (or to property line)

This does not mean the property must be clear-cut to bare soil, it involves thinning and breaking up the continuity of ladder fuels and large areas filled with contiguous shrubs that can readily transmit fire.



## **FIRE SAFE COUNCILS**

Fire Safe Councils were developed with the mission to preserve California's natural and manmade resources by enlisting all Californians to make their homes, neighborhoods and communities fire safe. Siskiyou County is fortunate to have a large number of active Fire Safe Councils. The Siskiyou Unit is very appreciative of the tremendous efforts these Fire Safe Councils have made in attempting to make Siskiyou County fire safe. Fire Safe Councils are pre-dominantly volunteer based organizations and are continually looking for new community members to join in their efforts. For a detailed list of Fire Safe Councils located in Siskiyou County refer to the Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County website: [www.firesafesiskiyou.org](http://www.firesafesiskiyou.org).

## **SISKIYOU COUNTY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PANEL**

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors has created the Siskiyou County Wildfire Protection Panel. The purpose of the Siskiyou County Wildfire Protection Panel is to set forth and describe in detail the elements that shall be required of each community wildfire protection plan affecting lands within Siskiyou County. The County Plan will also describe the collaborative processes that are to be used in developing fuels reduction strategies and projects, as well as the community wildfire protection plans. In addition, the County Plan will establish County priorities for projects. As a result, opportunities for community forests or stewardship projects in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) may be identified. Membership on the panel consists of the County Natural Resource Specialist, representatives from CAL FIRE, the U.S. Forest Service and other public members as deemed appropriate by the County Board of Supervisors.

## INFORMATION AND EDUCATION



Information and education is an extremely important component of the Siskiyou Unit. Each year the Unit participates and promotes many Fire Safety Education Programs throughout the County.

One of Siskiyou Units most successful Fire Safety Education Programs is the Fire PALS program. The Fire PALS program uses comedy and characterization to teach children about fire prevention and life safety at home and in the forest. In addition to Fire Pals, Smokey Bear and Sparky the Fire dog are commonly called to service to introduce and instill fire prevention and life safety messages in both children and adults. Our fire prevention messages are presented to the public by the Siskiyou Unit participating in numerous outreaches each year which include fair exhibits at (Siskiyou County Fair and Tulelake Fair), Northern California Special Olympics, poster contests, living with fire flyers, prevention road signs, rodeos, parades, classrooms, printed materials, radio, television spots, community meetings, Fire Safe Councils, one-on-one contact with homeowners and up-keeping of the Units web page. Our educational programs are informative and are provided to all ages.

Siskiyou Unit has a dedicated Volunteer in Prevention (VIP) Program that utilizes the citizens of our community who graciously volunteer their time to increase awareness, knowledge and actions implemented by individuals and communities to reduce human loss and property damage from wildland fires. VIPs assist in accomplishing these goals by conducting defensible space inspections required by Public Resource Code 4291. VIPs in the Siskiyou Unit educate thousands of people of all ages about fire prevention by participating in events and outreaches throughout Siskiyou County and other counties of California as well. Within the Siskiyou Unit, VIPs have also been trained to be fire lookouts, to inspect power lines, and to educate homeowners on how to keep their home fire safe. Furthermore, VIPs are trained to assist CAL FIRE's efforts in providing information to the media and public during wildland fires and other emergencies.

## **B. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT**

The Siskiyou Unit Resource Management staff administers numerous programs which support the California Strategic Fire Plan.



### ***Fuels Modification***

**Forest Practice** – Siskiyou Unit Resource Management staff is responsible to enforce the California Forest Practice Act and Forest Practice Rules for timber operations on private timberlands. This enforcement starts with the review of the initial project, and continues through the harvesting of timber to completion. During the review of commercial timber harvesting plans, Unit staff has opportunities to provide written recommendations to project proponents designed to facilitate a positive change in the methods in which timber operations are conducted. We continually look for ways to improve forest health, fire safety, hazard reduction, public safety, vehicular access, water sources, timing of operations, wildlife benefits, and other site specific mitigating measures necessary to support the California's Strategic Fire Plan. The treatment of logging slash to reduce the overall fuel hazard must comply with the rules and regulations, which generally apply around structures and along roads.

**Vegetation Management Program (VMP)** - The Vegetation Management Program (VMP) is a cost-sharing program utilizing prescribed fire, and mechanical means, for addressing wildland fire fuel hazards and other resource management issues on State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands. The use of prescribed fire mimics natural processes, restores fire to its historic role in wildland ecosystems, and provides significant fire hazard reduction benefits that enhance public and firefighter safety.

VMP allows private landowners to enter into a contract with CAL FIRE to use prescribed fire to accomplish a combination of fire protection and resource management goals. The Unit will support projects that fit within the Unit's priority areas and are considered to be of the most value to the citizens and resources.

**California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)** – A state cost share program to assist private timberland owners in the management of their lands. Eligible practices include: site preparation, reforestation, pre-commercial thinning, pruning, release, slash disposal and land conservation projects. Funding assistance to landowners is 75%, or up to 90% for projects on lands damaged by wildfire.

**Grant funded fuel treatments** – These projects generally involve the construction or maintenance of fuel breaks in the Wildland-Urban interface.

### ***Environmental Review***

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires public agencies to consider actions on projects that may directly or indirectly result in a physical change in the environment. When CAL FIRE funds, approves, permits, facilitates or carries out a project as lead agency it is obligated to ensure that the appropriate steps are taken in complying with CEQA by preparing an environmental review. This review is conducted by a Resource Management representative in the Forester classification assigned as the Unit Environmental Coordinator.

Reviews conducted by the Environmental Coordinator ensure that the statutory responsibilities of CAL FIRE are addressed in the project planning phase. Examples of CAL FIRE projects in the Unit include

facility construction or repairs, maintenance and fire hazard clearance; fuel reduction projects such as shaded fuel breaks, prescribed burns, and live fire training.

### ***Fire Suppression Repair***

CAL FIRE has authority to conduct fire suppression repair activities during emergency incidents on State Responsibility Areas (SRA). This authority is provided under the Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 4675 & 4676. Fire suppression repair includes mitigating damage to resources and property caused by firefighting efforts, including but not limited to, potential erosion from dozer and hand lines, road opening and watercourse crossings. The primary objective is to mitigate, fire suppression caused damage to as close to pre-fire conditions as is reasonably possible. This is done by minimizing sediment delivery to watercourses, mitigating slope conditions to pre-fire drainage patterns, removing fire suppression-related debris, restoring or removing berms and barriers as necessary, repairing gates and fence lines removed for fire control access, and implementing appropriate mitigation measures (in consultation with a CAL FIRE archaeologist) to protect cultural and/or historic resource sites.

The Resource Management staff provides suppression repair duties in the Unit. Their natural resource background, training and knowledge of both fire control issues and methods of addressing complex environmental issues greatly support the California's Strategic Fire Plan. They work with landowners and other stakeholders to provide a rapid post-fire assessment of the burned area. They have many private and agency contacts, and effectively utilize available resources, including CAL FIRE hand crews, to accomplish the restoration and protection activities.

### ***Forest and Range Health***

CAL FIRE's mission emphasizes the management and protection of California's natural resources. The Resource Management Program is an integral part of that responsibility. Management of overstocked timber stands is necessary to achieve the goals of restoring, enhancing and protecting California's natural resources. Healthy forests are more productive, are more resistant to diseases that weaken trees or cause mortality, and generally are at lower risk to catastrophic wildfire. Restoring rangeland through prescribed burning of non-native noxious weeds, forbs and grasses promotes increased range health, which has environmental and socio-economic benefit

## SECTION V: PRE- FIRE MANAGEMENT TACTICS

### DIVISION / BATTALION / PROGRAM PLANS



# ***CAL FIRE***



### **SISKIYOU UNIT PREVENTION BUREAU**

#### **Overview**

The Siskiyou Unit Prevention Bureau covers approximately 1.6 million acres in Siskiyou County. Fuel types within the Unit include timber, brush, oak woodland, grasses, desert sage and juniper stands. Due to the vast size of the County and the diverse landscapes contained within it, the weather in Siskiyou County can vary greatly from one location to the next. However, weather in Siskiyou County can be generally characterized as having hot, dry summers followed by cool, wet winters. Temperatures in the summer can soar above the 100 degree mark and dip below freezing in the winter. Windy conditions are consistently common in several geographical areas of the county. Historically, most of the large fires within the Unit have been wind driven. The mountain ranges and the local weather patterns support a natural mixture for severe electrical storms throughout most of the summer months. Often times these storms are accompanied with strong winds and can have little to no precipitation associated with them.

Historically, lightning has been the number one cause of ignitions within the Unit. Debris Burning is another leading cause of ignitions in the Siskiyou Unit. Careful analysis of the debris burn incidents has concluded that the majority of debris burns are not debris burn escapes, but rather enforcement issues (i.e. burning out of hours, burning on non-burn days). These incidents typically do not require full suppression efforts from responding firefighting resources. Often times, actions taken by firefighting resources have included having the responsible person extinguish the fire. Subsequently, the responsible person was then counseled and educated on the permit requirements of debris burning.

Ranching, recreation, and the timber industry fuel the County economy. The summer months see a large influx of tourists who take advantage of the wide range of outdoor activities in the County. Activities include hiking, fishing, hunting, mountain climbing, white water rafting, mountain biking and camping. At times, these activities result in both authorized and unauthorized fires. In an effort to reduce the total number of negligent fires, the Prevention Bureau takes the lead role in informing, educating, and enforcing forest and fire laws.

Personnel within the Bureau work seamlessly with County Government to ensure public safety building codes are enforced in commercial and residential development. The Bureau vigorously and consistently pursues prompt enforcement of all forest and fire laws and seeks, when appropriate cost recovery for fire suppression. Bureau personnel are active members on the Siskiyou County Arson Team (SCAT) and collaborate with other law enforcement agencies as needed or requested.

Pre-Fire Engineering is another component of the Prevention Bureau. The Prevention Bureau is responsible for ensuring the Fire Plan and statistical data, are properly captured, and reviewed for pre-fire planning

The Bureau works with each Battalion towards accomplishing goals and objectives to reduce the ignition problems throughout the Unit. Mapping in a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) environment is a large component of the Pre-Fire Engineering duties. It is imperative that the Bureau assures that all maps are complete and accurate, and the most current methodologies are being used to capture data.

The Prevention Bureau continues to provide education and information through school programs, out reaches, and one-on-one contact with the public. The Bureau generates press releases and public service announcements on a regular basis, in an effort to inform and educate as many residents as possible. The Bureau actively participates in an inter-agency Fire Prevention Co-op. The cooperative is between local, state and federal agencies and is an ongoing effort to spread fire prevention messages to the communities we serve.

The Prevention Bureau also uses Volunteers in Prevention (VIP) to educate the public by performing clearance inspections around residences, issuing burn permits, campfire permits, power line inspections, and assisting with educational opportunities.

## **FIRE PREVENTION GOALS**

### **GOAL # 1**

#### **Reduce the total number and severity of fires throughout the Unit**

- a. Prioritize projects, education, and community involvement in target areas based on analyzed ignition data.
- b. Reduce the total number of illegal debris burning fires through education and enforcement efforts.
- c. Work closely with state, federal, and local governments, to cooperatively reduce ignitions across jurisdictional boundaries.
- d. Actively patrol on high fire danger days and provide education on potential fire hazards, proper fire use, and fire safety.
- e. Actively patrol in areas with high ignitions and vigorously pursue prompt enforcement action of forest and fire laws when necessary.

### **GOAL # 2**

#### **Increase the total number of defensible homes within the Unit.**

- a. Educate residents on the proper care, maintenance and benefits of a “defensible space” home.
- b. Analyze data to identify areas with large concentrations of homes that do not meet the defensible space requirements and target these areas for inspections.
- c. Provide training to Siskiyou Unit on PRC 4291 (LE-100) to use as an educational tool with any public contact.



- d. When necessary pursue enforcement actions to gain “defensible space” compliance.
- e. Collaborate with county and local governments and Fire Safe Councils to identify and prioritize projects that will increase a community’s defense in the event of wildfire.

### **GOAL # 3**

#### **Reduce the total number of undetermined fires within the Unit.**

- a. Provide further training and education to field personnel in proper origin and cause investigation.
- b. Analyze investigation reports from the field for accuracy and completeness.
- c. Provide direction to field personnel on proper reporting techniques.

### **GOAL # 4**

#### **Enhance education and training for Bureau personnel**

- a. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Juvenile Fire Setter Program.
- b. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Field Training Officer (FTO).
- c. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Public Information.
- d. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Fire Arms Instruction.
- e. Provide Bureau personnel with advanced training in GIS.
- f. Provide Bureau personnel with advanced training in Fire Investigation.





# **CAL FIRE**

## **Siskiyou Training Battalion**



The Siskiyou Unit Training Bureau provides on-going training, education and certification to all CAL FIRE personnel assigned to the Siskiyou Unit. The Training Bureau also provides training and education support for several local government volunteer fire departments throughout Siskiyou County. The Siskiyou Unit Training Bureau is currently State funded for one Battalion Chief.

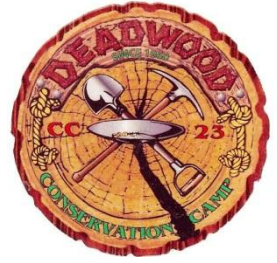
The first priority of the Siskiyou Training Bureau is to provide the overall safety of permanent, seasonal and volunteer personnel through proper training. Training is conducted through instructional programs that target operational efficiency with emphasis on safe operating procedures in all aspects of fire and emergency operations. All training is focused on providing and maintaining the highest quality emergency services at both fire and medical responses to the citizens of California. Instructional programs target operational efficiency with emphasis on safety and cost effectiveness in all aspects of fire and emergency operations. The Siskiyou Unit requires all employees to spend at least 15 percent of their time in training. This training can range from informal routine station training to formal web-based or classroom environment training. The Siskiyou Unit has implemented an on-line training program (Target Safety) which has streamlined the delivery of emergency operational training. All training is based on defined, measurable objectives and delivered in the most effective and cost efficient manner.

The Siskiyou Unit is heavily involved with cooperative relationships, which include involvement with the College of the Siskiyou's (COS) Fire Program and training grounds. This cooperation leads to outstanding opportunities that allow quality and cost efficient professional training using one of the best fire training facilities on the West Coast. The Siskiyou Unit, in cooperation with the Klamath National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest and many local government fire departments, conducts a two-day multi-agency drill (Siskiyou County Interagency Hall Drills) each July to provide annual re-certification for wildland fire training for the Siskiyou County fire services. Local, State and Federal wildland firefighters who participate in the drill are able to improve their skills, as well as, create cooperative working relationships in an interagency environment.



# ***CAL FIRE***

## **Deadwood Camp**



Deadwood Camp is a 90 man, four- fire crew camp located in Siskiyou County approximately five miles outside of the City of Fort Jones. Opened in 1962, Deadwood is operated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The fire crews work on grade projects five days a week all year round. These projects include many fuel reduction projects for Fire Safe Councils, municipalities, schools, county government, state government agencies and federal government agencies. Acres treated vary by project and stakeholder needs and desires. As recognized by the fire plan, inmate labor for fuel reduction projects provides good training for fire-fighting crews and defensible space around valuable assets and infrastructure at a reasonable cost to the taxpayer. In addition to the fire crews Deadwood Camp has a well-equipped cabinet shop, metal shop and automotive repair shop.



# **CAL FIRE**

## **Scott Valley Battalion**



### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Scott Valley Battalion (Battalion 1) is staffed by a Battalion Chief (Battalion 2611), Fort Jones Station is staffed with: 2 Fire Captains, 2 Fire Apparatus Engineers, 1 Heavy Fire Equipment Operator assigned year around. During the summer months, an LT Fire Apparatus Engineer and approximately 10 to 14 seasonal firefighters complete the peak summer staffing. Duzel Rock Lookout and Quartz Hill Lookout are located in the Battalion. Lookouts will be staffed during high fire danger or when severe lightning storms are predicted.

In the Scott Valley Battalion, the Scott Valley Volunteer Fire Protection District, the Etna City Volunteer Fire Department, Fort Jones Volunteer Fire Department, and the United States Forest Service (USFS) support the emergency response with Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid Agreements. It is inevitable that despite the highly effective wildland fire protection system, some fires will continue to escape control efforts under extreme weather conditions, or when resource availability is limited due to significant fire activity. As a result, a collaboration of efforts is necessary to create homes and communities that can withstand such fires.

The Scott Valley Battalion consists of approximately 387,000 acres of State Direct Protection Area (DPA). Most of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) is located in the hills surrounding the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) on the valley floor of the Scott Valley. Approximately 56,000 acres of CAL FIRE'S DPA are federal lands of the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Located throughout the Battalion there are a significant number of residences within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). This situation creates a complex WUI problem that requires attention and mitigation to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfires. The area of Fort Jones, Etna, Greenview, Quartz Valley, and Callahan support the most populated areas of the Battalion. State Highway 3 runs through the middle of the Battalion with moderate traffic during the daylight hours. Vegetation types range from grass, brush, to timber. Timber makes up approximately 85% of the Battalion vegetation type. Approximately 15% of the vegetation type is comprised of brush fields and annual grasses. Historically large fires have occurred throughout the Battalion, however in recent years the fire sizes have been relatively small in comparison. The conditions and potential have increased in recent years for a large fire to occur as a result of decreased level of timber harvesting, and an increased number of individuals moving into the WUI.

The weather patterns in the Battalion throughout the spring and summer months consist of warm and dry days with a moderate to strong afternoon breeze. During the nighttime hours the temperature usually drops with some relative humidity recovery.

The topography of the Battalion includes portions of the lush, agricultural lands of the Scott Valley floor and extends upward into the timberland of the steep and rugged mountains. The mountain ranges and the local weather patterns support a natural mixture for severe electrical storms throughout most of the summer months. Often times these storms are accompanied with strong winds and can have little to no precipitation associated with them.

The Scott Valley Battalion is fortunate to have several productive Fire Safe Councils which consist of the Lower Scott River FSC, French Creek FSC, Quartz Valley Area FSC, Rattlesnake Creek FSC, and the Scott Bar FSC. Over the past several years these Councils have evolved into a vital part of the hazard mitigation, and emergency response planning within the Battalion. Collectively these Fires Safe Councils have projected and completed several million dollars worth of fuels modifications projects reducing the fire threat in some of our target areas surrounding the foothills of the Scott Valley (See the attached spreadsheet of projected and completed projects within the Battalion).

## **FIRE PREVENTION GOALS**

### **GOAL # 1**

#### **Reduce the total fires in the Battalion.**

- a. Advertise fire prevention messages with fire prevention signs along major roadways.
- b. Provide public training through one-on-one public contact.
- c. Educate the public with news releases and radio messages.
- d. Train with local fire departments and fire agencies to achieve common goals.
- e. Participate in local events for educational purposes.
- f. Increase the total number and effectiveness of defensible space inspections, and promote an increasing level of compliance with defensible space laws (PRC4291).
- g. Increase the total number of power line inspections and promote increasing level of compliance with power line laws and regulations (PRC4293).
- h. Analyze trends in fire cause and focus prevention and education efforts to modify behavior and effect change.

### **GOAL # 2**

#### **Minimize fire size and reduce overall damage and costs associated with wildfires.**

- a. Support and assist Fire Safe Councils in identifying, obtaining and executing fuel modification projects throughout the Battalion.
- b. Work with landowners to maintain access roads into remote fire prone areas.
- c. Interact with local timber operators, timberland owners, and resource management staff to identify active timber operations, in an effort to educate and reduce the fire threat from their operations.
- d. Support the availability and utilization of CAL FIRE hand crews and other CAL FIRE resources for fuel management activities including ongoing maintenance of existing fuels modification projects.

### **GOAL # 3**

#### **Identify high hazard areas and plan for defending assets at risk.**

- a. Open and maintain existing roads that lead into high fire prone areas.
- b. Preplan with collaborators to produce evacuation and safe refuge areas within the Battalion.
- c. Facilitate activities with individuals and organizations, as appropriate, to assist individual property owners in complying with fire safe regulations.
- d. Provide a direct community presence in high fire prone areas. Articulate and promote the concept of land use planning to homeowners and landowners, as it relates to fire risk and living within the WUI.

#### **List of Stakeholders**

- Residents within the Battalion
- Property owners within the Battalion
- Various Fire Safe Councils
- Timber Owners
  - Fruit Growers Supply Company
  - Timber Products
  - Jeld-Wen
  - TimberVest
  - Roseburg
- Siskiyou County Fire Departments
  - Scott Valley FPD
  - Etna FD
  - Fort Jones FD
  - Happy Camp FD
  - Seiad Valley Fire Company
  - Klamath River Fire Company
  - Salmon River Fire Company
  - CAL FIRE
  - USFS Fire
- City of Etna
- City of Fort Jones
- Town of Greenview
- Town of Callahan
- CAL-TRANS Highway 3
- Pacific Power & Light (PacifiCorp)
- Siskiyou County Road Department

## **Pre-Fire Management Solutions**

General description of the agreed on target areas:

Key points of the local fire problem – Extremely large area (387,000 acres), one CAL FIRE Station in the Battalion, Inaccessible terrain, and/or long travel times, High occurrence of lightning activity and lightning caused fires.

General description of the desired future condition:

Continue to improve and maintain existing fuel breaks. Concentrate on the fuel breaks which are located in close proximity to communities and residences. Work towards modifying fuel breaks to completely envelope these areas.

Maintain and reclaim forest roads that access areas prone to high lightning activity. Maintain and repair bridges, culverts, and water crossings.

Maintain water storage tanks originally constructed for fire use. Assess the need for water sources in other areas of the Battalion where water is scarce.

Refer to the Siskiyou Unit's Fire Plan for a detailed list of pre fire projects within Battalion 1.



# ***CAL FIRE***

## **Shasta Valley Battalion**



### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Shasta Valley Battalion is centrally located in the northern part of Siskiyou County with the north end bordering the State of Oregon and the Units Battalions 1 to the west and 3 to the south. The east and west borders the Klamath National Forest (KNF) with several thousand acres of State Responsibility Area (SRA) extending into the KNF DPA. The Battalion is approximately 484,018 acres; 376,598 acres designated as SRA and 53,420 acres designated as Local Responsibility Area (LRA). It is comprised of the Siskiyou Unit Headquarters Station which houses two fire engines (E2664 & E2669) and one dozer (D2640), the Hornbrook Forest Fire Station which houses two fire engines (E2666 & E2668), and Paradise Craggy Lookout. Hornbrook Forest Fire Station is committed to year round fire protection due to a contract with Siskiyou County as part of the Amador Plan. Both stations are open year round for fire permit issuance and other public services. Paradise Craggy Lookout is only staffed with emergency workers during high fire danger days as well as during and after lightning storms.

Fuel types consist of grass, brush and timber that cover flat, rolling hills, and mountainous terrain. Much of the timberlands are fueled with medium to heavy slash from past logging operations. Interstate 5 and Highways 3, 96, 99, 263, as well as the Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP) railroad line run through the center of the Battalion. There are several major electrical transmission lines running north-south through the Battalion. The Battalion has a significant wildland urban interface (WUI) problem with many houses dispersed amongst the wildland areas. Due to the significant WUI problem, the lack of immediate water sources, and long travel times, much of the prevention efforts have been focused on reducing the potential for large fire losses by public education and enforcement of the California Public Resource Code Section 4291, which requires up to one hundred feet of fuel reduction/clearance around structures.

The weather patterns in the Battalion throughout the spring and summer months consist of warm and dry days with moderate to strong afternoon winds. The Shasta Valley is very prone to steady strong north winds in the summer and very strong south wind in the winter months. During the nighttime hours the temperature usually drops with some relative humidity recovery.

Although the wildland fire statistics do not display fires on local response area (LRA) land, in past years LRA has hosted many of the Battalion's largest fires that have threatened to burn state responsibility areas (SRA). Many of these fires were found to have the same causes as the SRA fires.

The Siskiyou Unit is active in local community outreach programs, such as food / toy drives, school programs, Fire Prevention Week programs and public safety messages. Several fire prevention signs are displayed throughout the battalion along major roadways in support of these programs.

#### Existing Prevention Sign Locations:

- Copco Road near railroad tracks.
- Ager-Beswick Road at Omega Road.
- Ager Road at Yreka-Ager Road.
- Highway A-12 at Mt. Shasta Vista.
- Old Hwy. 99 south of Yreka near South Yreka F.D. (Also visible from Interstate 5)
- Hwy. A-12 east of Grenada.
- Hwy. 263 north of Yreka

## **FIRE PREVENTION GOALS**

### **Goal #1**

#### **Reduce the total number of fires in the Battalion.**

- a. Advertise fire prevention messages with fire prevention signs along major roadways.
- b. Educate children utilizing school programs.
- c. Public education through public contact and participation in local events.
- d. Public education through news releases.
- e. Public education during burn permits issuance on proper and legal burning techniques.

### **Goal # 2**

#### **Reduce the impact of large, damaging fires in the Battalion.**

- a. Educate and enforce on proper clearances around structures, per PRC 4291.
- b. California Public Resources Code Section 4291 using the LE-100 inspection program.
- c. Support County and Battalion Fire Safe Councils.
- d. Assist with fuel reduction programs and fuel break projects.
- e. Support the California Public Resources Code Section 4290 program, which applies to new construction, to develop safer exit and egress to structures by establishing road and address standards, develop water supplies for emergency use, and delineate setbacks for fuel break / greenbelt development.

### **Goal # 3**

#### **Reduce the number of campfire escapes.**

- a. Educate the Public using media and public contact.
- b. Post signs in all campgrounds



## List of Stakeholders

- Residents within the Battalion
- Property owners within the Battalion
- Timber Owners
  - Roseburg Forest Products
  - Timber Products
  - Fruit Growers Supply Company
- U.S. Forest Service, Klamath National Forest
- BLM Medford
- BLM Redding
- County of Siskiyou
- CAL-TRANS: Highways 3,96,263, and Interstate 5
- Pacific Power & Light (PacifiCorp)
- Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP)
- Fire Safe Councils
  - Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County
  - Copco/Bogus
  - Yreka Area Fire Safe Council
  - Guys Gulch Working Group
  - Shamrock Working Group
  - Greenhorn Working Group
  - Rolling Hills Working Group
  - Hawkinsville Working Group
  - Yreka Working Group
  - Black Mountain Fire Safe Council
- Siskiyou County Fire Departments with or bordering with the Shasta Valley Battalion
  - Hilt Fire Hose Company
  - Hornbrook Fire Department
  - Copco Fire Department
  - Mayten Fire Department
  - Yreka Fire Department
  - South Yreka Fire Department
  - Montague Fire Department
  - Grenada Fire Department
  - Klamath River Fire Hose Company
  - Klamath National Forest
  - Black Mt. Fire Department
  - Oregon Department of Forestry
- Cities and Communities within the Shasta Valley Battalion
  - City of Yreka
  - City of Montague
  - Town of Grenada
  - Town of Hornbrook
  - Community of Klamath River Country Estates
  - Community of Copco
  - Community of Klamath River
  - Community of Big Springs
  - Community of Little Shasta
  - Community of Hilt
  - Community of Colestine

## **Pre-Fire Management Solutions**

General description of the desired future condition:

Resume the fire prevention messages with signs, school programs, news releases, meetings and local events, maintaining a positive presence within the community through the use of these programs.

Continue to improve and maintain existing fuel breaks. Concentrate on the fuel breaks which are located in close proximity to communities and residences. Work towards modifying fuel breaks to completely envelope these areas for protection as well as a means of egress and ingress.

Maintain and reclaim forest roads that access areas prone to high lightning activity. Clear and repair roads and water crossings.

Assess the need for water sources in areas of the Battalion where water is scarce.

Refer to the Siskiyou Unit's Fire Plan for a detailed list of pre-fire projects within Shasta Valley Battalion.



# ***CAL FIRE***

## **BUTTE VALLEY/ WEED BATTALION**



### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Butte Valley-Weed Battalion (Battalion 3) is a compilation of two state fire stations and one Administrative Captain assigned to the Weed City Fire Station. The staffing for the Battalion is as follows: a Battalion Chief (Battalion 2613), *Weed Station*: Two permanent Fire Captains, two permanent Fire Apparatus Engineers and one Limited Term (LT) Fire Apparatus Engineer. Approximately 10 to 14 seasonal firefighters complete the peak summer staffing. The Fire Apparatus assigned to Weed, are as follows E2663 (Model # 14) and E2676 (Model # 15). *Macdoel Station*: is staffed during fire season, with two Fire Captains and one Limited Term Relief Fire Captain. Approximately five to nine seasonal firefighters complete the station summer staffing. The fire engine at the Macdoel station is Engine 2660 (Model #34). *Weed City*: 1 Administrative Fire Captain (Captain 1201).

There are approximately 364,000 acres of Direct Protection Area in the Battalion. The fuel types range from timber to junipers to desert sage. Most areas are arid with minimal surface water available for firefighting. There are many areas with poor access due to volcanic geographic features. Most of the vegetation cover needs windy and dry conditions to burn intensely. The weather presents this condition many days throughout the year.

Most of the residents are in the cities of Weed, Dorris, Tulelake, and the communities of Macdoel, Gazelle, Lake Shastina, Hammond Ranch, and the Carrick Subdivision located northeast of Weed. Interstate 5 and State Highway 97 run through the Battalion with heavy traffic during most times of the day. The Union Pacific (UP) Railroad has tracks through the Weed area and through the Butte Valley. The Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP) has tracks from Weed heading North through the Shasta Valley. There are several sets of major electrical transmission lines that run north - south through the Battalion.

## **FIRE PREVENTION GOALS**

### **GOAL # 1**

#### **To reduce the total fires in the Battalion:**

- a. Advertise fire prevention messages with fire prevention signs along major roadways.
- b. LE-100 Inspections.
- c. Educate children utilizing school programs.
- d. Public education through public contact and Fire Safe Council outreach.
- e. Participation in local events.
- f. News releases.

### **GOAL # 2**

#### **Reduce the impact of a large fire in the Battalion:**

- a. LE-100 inspections.
- b. Fire Safe training to home-owner groups and other community groups.
- c. Assist with fuel reduction programs and fuel break projects.
- d. Obtain funding to perform or contract the work done for fuels projects.
- e. Support the PRC 4290 and 4291 Program.
- f. Support Fire Safe Councils.
- g. Improve and develop water storage for fire suppression.

### **GOAL # 3**

#### **Instill Fire Prevention Goals and State Regulations to local Government Fire Depts.**

- a. Jointly train and help local government fire departments.
- b. Assist in prevention, planning and protection to local government.
- c. Assist with media handouts and information material

### **List of Stakeholders**

- Residents within the Battalion
- Property owners within the Battalion
- Timber owners
  - Roseburg Forest Products
  - Sierra Pacific Industry
  - Hearst Corporation
  - Hancock/Olympic Forests
  - Timber Products
  - U.S. Forest Service, Klamath National Forest
  - U.S. Forest Service, Shasta-Trinity National Forest
  - BLM
  - Siskiyou County

- Siskiyou County Fire Departments  
(Auto/Mutual Aid Agreements)
  - Weed FD
  - Lake Shastina CSD
  - Gazelle FD
  - Butte Valley FD
  - Dorris FD
  - Hammond Ranch FC
  - Mount Shasta Vista FC
  - Pleasant Valley FC
  - Tulelake FD
  - Tennant CSD
  - USFS (KNF and SHF)
  - CAL FIRE
  - Oregon Department of Forestry
- Cities and Communities
  - City of Weed
  - City of Dorris
  - City of Tulelake
  - College of the Siskiyous
  - Town of Gazelle
  - Town of Macdoel
  - Town of Tennant
  - Town of Edgewood
  - Mount Shasta Vista Subdivision
  - Carrick Addition Subdivision
  - Pleasant Valley Subdivision
  - Lake Shastina CSD
  - Hammond Ranch
- Additional Cooperators
  - CAL-TRANS
  - California Department of Fish and Game
  - Pacific Power & Light (Pacific Corp)
  - Siskiyou County
  - Union Pacific Railroad (UP)
  - Lake Shastina CSD/ Rancho Hills Subdivision
  - Boyd Farms
  - Shasta Valley Farms
  - Lassen Canyon Nursery
  - Red Rock Ranch
  - Sierra Pacific Ranches
  - Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

## **PRE-FIRE MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS**

Key points of the local fire problem: Extremely large area (364,000 acres), only two CAL FIRE stations in the Battalion, inaccessible terrain and/or long travel times. High occurrence of lightning activity and lightning caused fires. Area is subject to high winds creating fast moving fires with long range spotting potential.

General description of the future condition:

Continue to improve and maintain existing fuel breaks and fuels modification projects. Concentrate on fuel breaks and fuels modification projects that are located in close proximity to communities and residences. Work towards expanding fuel breaks and fuels modification projects to completely envelop high-risk areas.

Maintain and reclaim forest roads that access areas prone to lightning activity.

Maintain water storage tanks originally constructed for fire use. Assess the need for water sources in the Battalion where water is scarce.

Priorities:

1. Lake Shastina Subdivision
2. The Greater Weed Area
3. Mount Shasta Vista and Juniper Valley Subdivisions
4. The Greater Butte Valley Area



# ***CAL FIRE***

## **McCloud Battalion**



### **Executive Summary:**

Battalion 4 is located in Southern Siskiyou County and parts of northern Shasta County. Total acreage in the Battalion is 267,855 acres. Two fire stations are maintained in Battalion 4. The McCloud Station is a year round station located on Squaw Valley Road in McCloud. The Pondosa Station is a seasonal station located on Highway 89, four miles from the old logging mill town Pondosa. Pondosa Station is also responsible for the maintenance and operations of Siskiyou Bear Lookout located on Bear Mountain. During fire season both stations are equipped with two fire engines. McCloud Station operates E2662 (model #14) and E2659 (model #34) and Pondosa Station operates E2661 (model #34) and E2667 (model #14).

A Battalion Chief (B2614), three Fire Captains (FC) and four Fire Apparatus Engineers (FAE), staff battalion 4. During the summer months the staffing is augmented by seasonal employees including one FC, two LT FAE and up to twenty-eight seasonal Firefighters.

The State Responsibility Area (SRA) within Battalion 4 is made up of both private and federal lands, almost entirely timber. The Fire Hazard Ranking for Battalion 4 is High and Very High. Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) challenges exist within Battalion 4 around the communities of Dunsmuir, Mt. Shasta and McCloud. Of particular concern are the rural areas on the east side of Mt. Shasta City, and in Mount Shasta Forest and Wilderness Estate subdivisions to the east of McCloud. Within the past year, Battalion 4 has added 33,000 acres to its Direct Protection Area (DPA) through a land swap with the United States Forest Service, which now incorporates the areas of concern into Battalion 4 response area.

## ***Fire Prevention Goals***

### **GOAL #1**

#### **Prevent loss of life and property within the Battalion.**

- Actively seek opportunities to provide fire safety information to the public.
- Continue participation in programs that are already established.
- LE-100 inspections.
- Update maps on water source and fuel breaks.

### **GOAL #2**

#### **Prevent human caused fires by providing homeowners and stakeholders with information about safe burning practices and current burn regulations.**

- All employees will be well versed in current burn policies.
- Collect all fire plans from timber companies, ensure employees are familiar with locations of logging operations and access.
- Public education through public contact.
- Distribute Wildfire Safety brochure.

### **GOAL #3**

#### **Reduce the impact of large fires in the Battalion.**

- Maintain Siskiyou Bear Lookout for staffing during lightning and high fire danger days.
- Assist and participate with fuel reduction programs and fuel break projects.
- Assist in maintaining the vast road system in the Battalion.

Support and assist the Fire Safe Council both Mt. Shasta and McCloud.



## List of Stakeholders

- Residents
- Property Owners
- Timber Companies
  - Hancock Forest Management
  - Hearst Corporation
  - Campbell Timberland Management
  - Bascom Realty
  - Roseburg Forest Products
  - Sierra Pacific Industry
  - W.M. Beatty and Associates
- USFS Shasta Trinity National Forest
- BLM
- Siskiyou County
- McCloud Zone of Increased Benefit (ZIB)
- Mt. Shasta Forest Property Owners Association
- McCloud River Railroad
- Willow Creek Ranch
- City of Dunsmuir
- City of Mt. Shasta
- Town of McCloud
- Fire Departments
  - McCloud Community Service District
  - Mt. Shasta City Fire Department
  - Mt. Shasta Fire Protection District
  - Dunsmuir Fire Department
  - Mt. Shasta Forest Volunteers

## APPENDIX A: PRE- FIRE PROJECTS

Batt	Project Number	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
I	04-DG-11050555	Scott River Road Shaded Fuel Break	C	2004	Fuel Modification	70
I	06-USFS-8908	Lower Scott River Access Roads SFB	NC	2006	Fuel Modification	100
I	06-DG-11050555-021	West Community Shaded Fuel Break	M	2006	Fuel Modification	69
I	06-DG-11050555-022	Sniktaw Road Shaded Fuel Break	C	2006	Fuel Modification	40
I	07UFS9552	Lower Scott River Access Road II	NC	2007	Fuel Modification	50
I	07-DG-11050500-017	French Creek Fuel Break Segment 1	C	2008	Fuel Modification	44
I	07-DG-11050500-025	Tyler Gulch Road Shaded Fuel Break	C	2008	Fuel Modification	57
I	07-DG-11050500-023	Rattlesnake Creek Road Shaded Fuel Break	M	2008	Fuel Modification	52
I	07-DG-11050500-022	Old English Road Shaded Fuel Break	M	2009	Fuel Modification	51
I	08USFS0109	Elderly & Disabled Landowner Defensible Space	M	2008	Fuel Modification	60
I	09USFS-X-0075 (1417)	Dangle Lane Shaded Fuel Break	C	2010	Fuel Modification	70
I	09USFS-SFA0090 (930)	French Creek Shaded Fuel Break Seg. B, C & E	C	2010	Fuel Modification	86
I	09BLM0113 (1388)	Four Corners Community Safety Fuel Break Phases 3-4-5	C	2010	Fuel Modification	96
I	09BLM-0093 (931)	Four Corners Community Safety Fuel Break Phase 6	C	2010	Fuel Modification	151
I	09USFS-0096 (1519)	Lower Scott River Escape Route	C	2011	Fuel Modification	170
I	09USFS-X-0095 (1518)	Scott River Watershed Elderly & Disabled	C	2011	Fuel Modification	60
I	09UFS-0099 (1521)	Lower Scott River Ridgetop Fuel Break	C	2011	Fuel Modification	170
I	09UFS-0100 (1522)	Lower Scott River Road Fuel Break Maintenance	C	2011	Fuel Modification	70
I	10USFS-ES0333	French Creek Road Shaded Fuel Break	NC	2012	Fuel Modification	
I	10USFS-ES0329	Big Meadows Recreation Area Hazardous Fuels Reduction	NC	2012	Fuel Modification	255
I	10USFS-ES0336	Western Scott Valley Shaded Fuel Break	NC	2012	Fuel Modification	270
I	10-DG-11050500-014	Scott Valley Multiple Municipality Wildland Fire Protection Project	A	2012	Fuel Modification	120
I	11USFS-SFA-X-0038	Old High CCC Road Shaded Fuel Break	NC	2012	Fuel Modification	177
I	11USFS-SFA0072	Scott River Watershed CWPP Completion	A	2012	Planning	
I	06-DG-11050555-021	West Community Shaded Fuel Break	C	2006	Fuel Modification	69
I	07-DG-11050500-017	French Creek Fuel Break Segment 1	C	2008	Fuel Modification	44

Batt	Project Number	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
I	07-DG-11050500-025	Tyler Gulch Road Shaded Fuel Break	C	2008	Fuel Modification	57
	07-DG-11050500-023	Rattlesnake Creek Road Shaded Fuel Break	C	2008	Fuel Modification	52
I		Etna Fuel Break	M	2000	Fuel Modification	60
I	11-DG-11051000-017	Western Siskiyou Sustainable Fuel Break	A	2013	Fuel Modification	59
I	10CA-11051000-027	Orleans Private Property Fuels Treatment Project	A	2013	Fuel Modification	203
I	11-DG-11050500-027	Shackleford Falls Recreation Area Fuels Reduction	A	2013	Fuel Modification	
I	12-DG-11050500-018	Emergency Water Development for Callahan	A	2013	Water Development	N/A
I	GT-151-SKU-003	Soap Creek Fuel Break Maintenance	C	2013	Fuel Modification	42
I		Soap Creek Ridge South Shaded Fuel Break	P	2014	Fuel Modification	24
II	09-DG-11050500-064	Yreka Area FSC Elderly & Disabled Def. Space	A	2012	Fuel Modification	30
II	11USFS-SFA0073	Yreka Area FSC CWPP Development	A	2012	Planning	
II	11USFS-SFA-X-0086	Yreka Area Defensible Space Fuels Reduction Project	A	2012	Fuel Modification	124
II	11USFS_SFA-X-0100	Yreka Area Critical Ingress/Egress Shaded Fuel Break	A	2012	Fuel Modification	150
II	09UFS0159	FSCSC Fuel Reduction 2009	C	2011	Fuel Modification	50
II	12USFS-SFA216	R Ranch Shaded Fuel Break Project	A	2013	Fuel Modification	30
II	10-DG-11050500-014	Seiad Water Source Development	A	2013	Water Development	N/A
II		Black Mountain, Phase II	A	2013	Fuel Modification	50
II		Black Mountain, Phase III	P	2014	Fuel Modification	50
		White Rock Shooting Range	P	2015	Fuel Modification	26
III	07-DG-11050500-028	Juniper Flat FSC Chipper Days	C	2008	Fuel Modification	
III	09USFS0102 (935)	Juniper Flat Hazardous Fuel Reduction	C	2010	Fuel Modification	50
III	10USFS-ES0465	Hammond Ranch Community Hazardous Fuel Reduction	A	2012	Fuel Modification	50
III	10UFS-0653	Juniper Flat FSC Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Phase 2	C	2012	Fuel Modification	100
III	10UFS-0650	4th Annual Juniper Flat Free Chipper Days	C	2010	Fuel Modification	
III	11USFS-SFA-X-0042	Juniper Flat Defensible Perimeter Fuel Break, Phase I	C	2012		100
III	11USFS-SFA-X-0120	Hammond Ranch Community Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, Phase 2	A	2012	Fuel Modification	90
III	10USFSES314	Weed City Fuel Break	M	2011	Fuel Modification	50
III		College of the Siskiyous	A		Fuel	200

Batt	Project Number	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
					Modification	
III		Shastina Drive-S. Weed Blvd	A	2011	Fuel Modification	50
III		Cal Trans	M	2011	Fuel Modification	
III		Columbus	M	2011	Fuel Modification	3
III		Old Edgewood Road	M	2009	Fuel Modification	12
III	RAC2010	Hammond Ranch Water Storage	P	2012	Water Tanks	
III	RAC2010	Pleasant Valley Water Storage	P	2012	Water Tanks	
III	RAC2011	Pleasant Valley Senior Fuel Reduction Project	C	2013	Fuel Modification	25
III	RAC2012	Siskiyou Fire Warden Brush Chipper	C	2012	Equipment	
III	Rx 2-023 SKU	East Weed Fuel Break	M	2005	Fuel Modification	12
III		Tulelake Fair	O		Public Outreach	
III		Juniper Flat Escape Route Chipper Days	A	2013	Fuel Modification	
III		Weed City Fuel Break V	P	2013	Fuel Modification	40
III		Observatory Hill Fuels Reduction	P	2014	Fuel Modification	60
III		East Weed Fuel Break Phase III Maintenance	A	2014	Fuel Modification	51
III		Rancho Hills	P	2014	Fuel Modification	14
		Shasta O Ranch VMP	P	2014	VMP	496
IV	10USFS0379	Lake Siskiyou Phase V	C	2012	Fuel Modification	40
IV	09-D6-11052912151-SKU-002	Azalea	M	2013	Fuel Modification	40
IV	10USFS-ES0382	Rainbow Ridge Fuelbreak Phase I	C	2012	Fuel Modification	44
IV		Bascom Wood	C	2011	Fuel Modification	240
IV	10USFS-ES0504	Dunsmuir Fuels Reduction Project of 2009	C	2011	Fuel Modification	32.5
IV		South Dunsmuir Fuel Break	P	2011	Fuel Modification	20
IV	01-BLM-0098	McCloud FMZ Phase #1	C	2003	Fuel Modification	83
IV	02-BLM0-0076	McCloud FMZ Phase #2	C	2004	Fuel Modification	32
IV	04-DG-11051400-005	McCloud FMZ Phase #3	C	2006	Fuel Modification	52
IV	05-BLM-0209	McCloud FMZ Phase #4	C	2006	Fuel Modification	43
IV	07USFS9430	McCloud FMZ Phase #4B	C	2006	Fuel Modification	24
IV	07USFS9434	Shasta Forest Interface Project 1	C	2007	Fuel	49

Batt	Project Number	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
IV		McCloud FMZ #5	C	2012	Fuel Modification	73
IV	09-DG-11052912-151-	Rainbow Ridge Fuelbreak Phase II	C	2011	Fuel Modification	20
IV	12UFS0173	SW Mt. Shasta Fuel Reduction Project	A	2013	Fuel Modification	75
IV		Azalea Herbicide	P	2014	Maintenance	35
IV		Thamar Shaded Fuel Break	A	2014	Fuel Modification	46
IV		Siskiyou Golden Fair	O		Public Outreach	
I-IV	10UFS0548	FSCSC Fuel Reduction 2010	C	2011	Fuel Modification	260
I-IV	06BLM9058	FSCSC Planning and Coordination Support	C	2008	CWPP	
I-IV		School and Education Programs	O		Public Outreach	

**Status Guide:** A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance, NC = Not Complete.

## ***APPENDIX B: UNIT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES***

- Develop strong relationships with all stakeholders and Agencies within the Unit.
- Use collected data and analyze new data from all sources to prioritize projects and protect WUI areas and Watersheds within the Siskiyou Unit.
- Analyze every dollar spent on fire suppression, fuel reduction projects and losses for the WUI area to ensure we are spending money as needed.
- Fire Prevention will play a large role with Education to the Public and Businesses to prevent unwanted wildfire. Develop fire safe community and residents when they are in the planning stage. Use PRC 4291 to its fullest extent and foster acceptance from the home owners.

## **APPENDICES C-Z**

These Appendices are reserved for future use if necessary.



### Figure A: Unit Map





**Legend**

- BATTALION 1
- BATTALION 2
- BATTALION 3
- BATTALION 4
- Fire Station
- County
- State
- Water
- Land

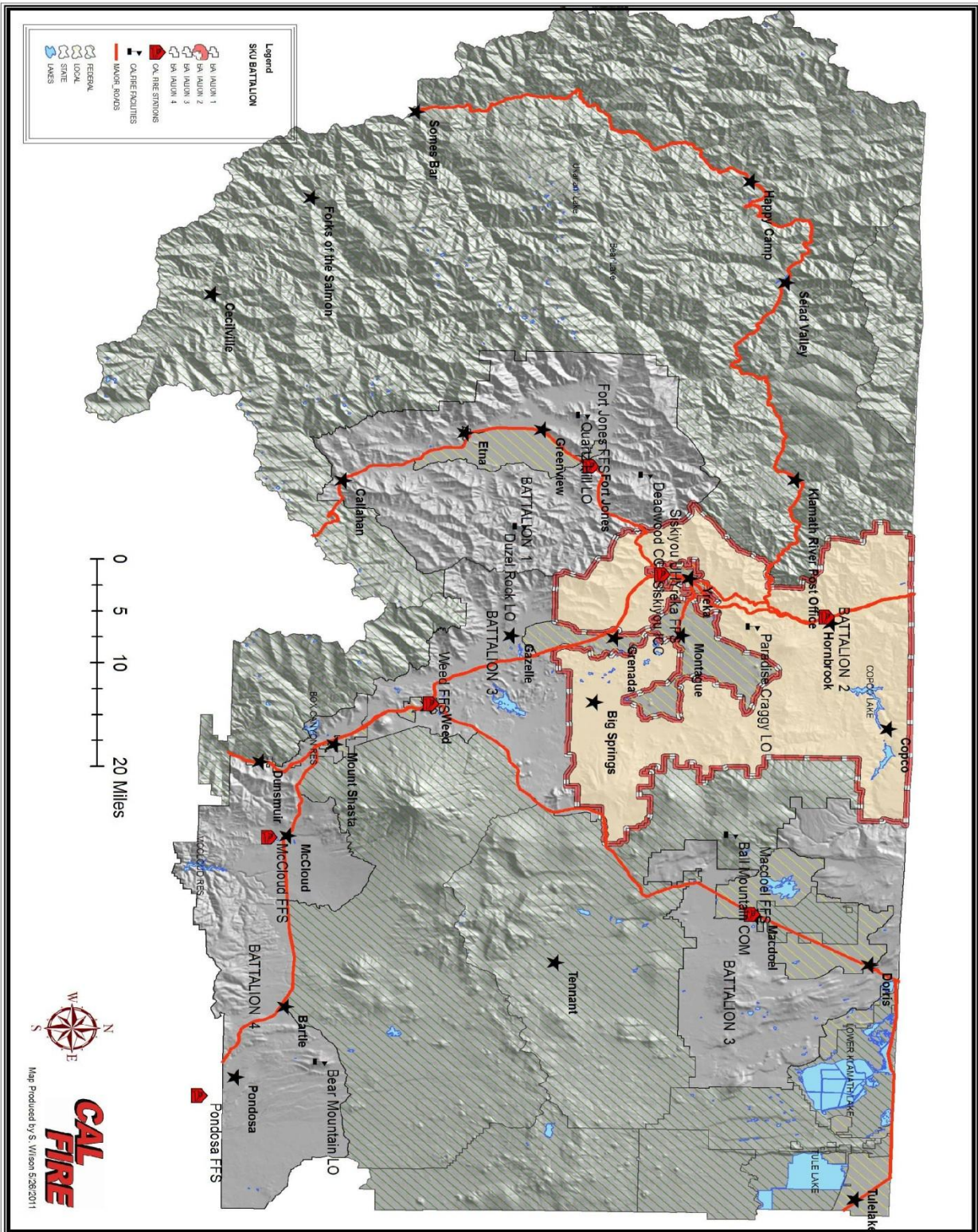
0 5 10 20 Miles

**CAL FIRE**

Map Produced by S. Wilson 5/28/2011

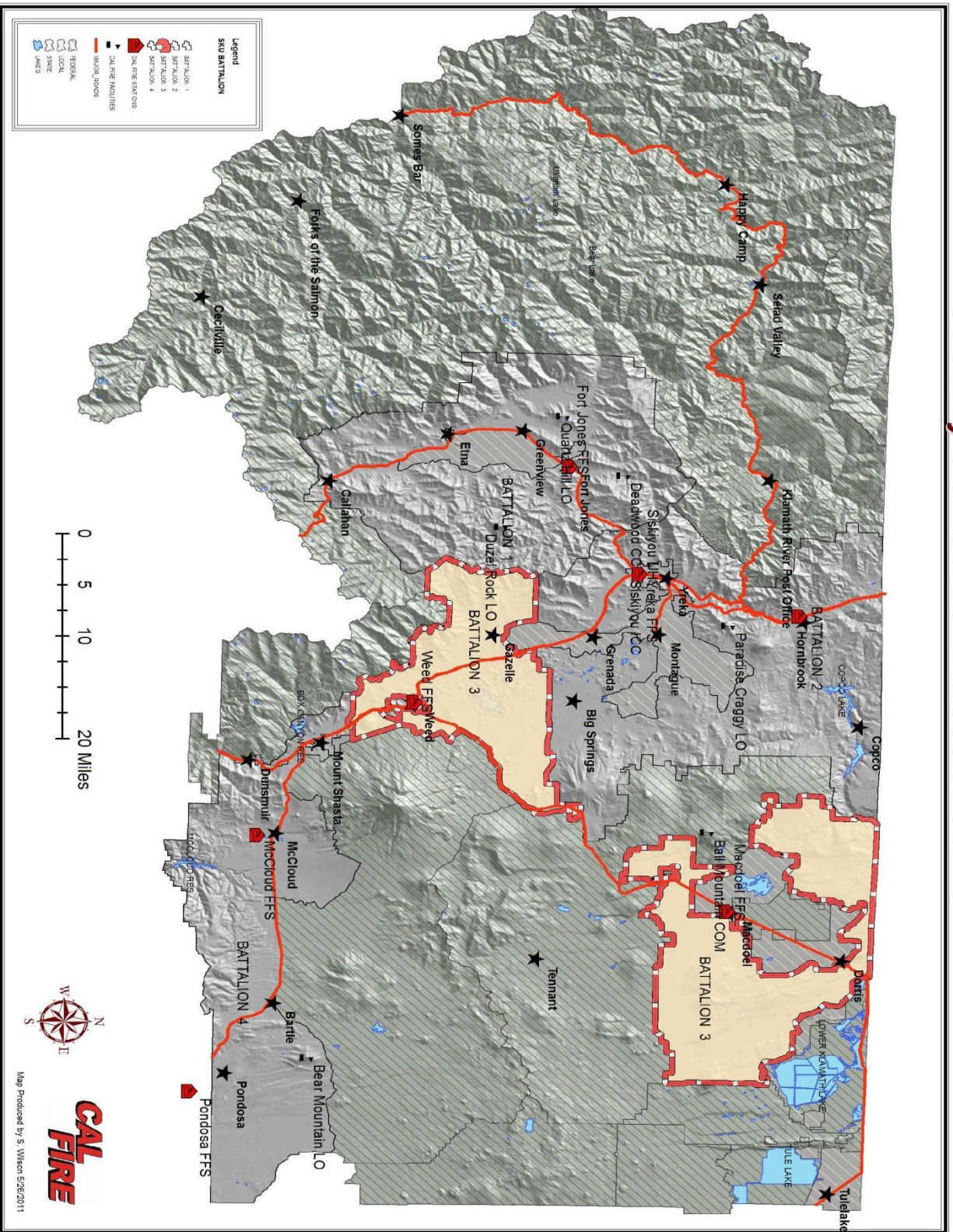


# Shasta Valley Battalion Siskiyou Unit Battalion 2





# Butte Valley Battalion Siskiyou Unit Battalion 3

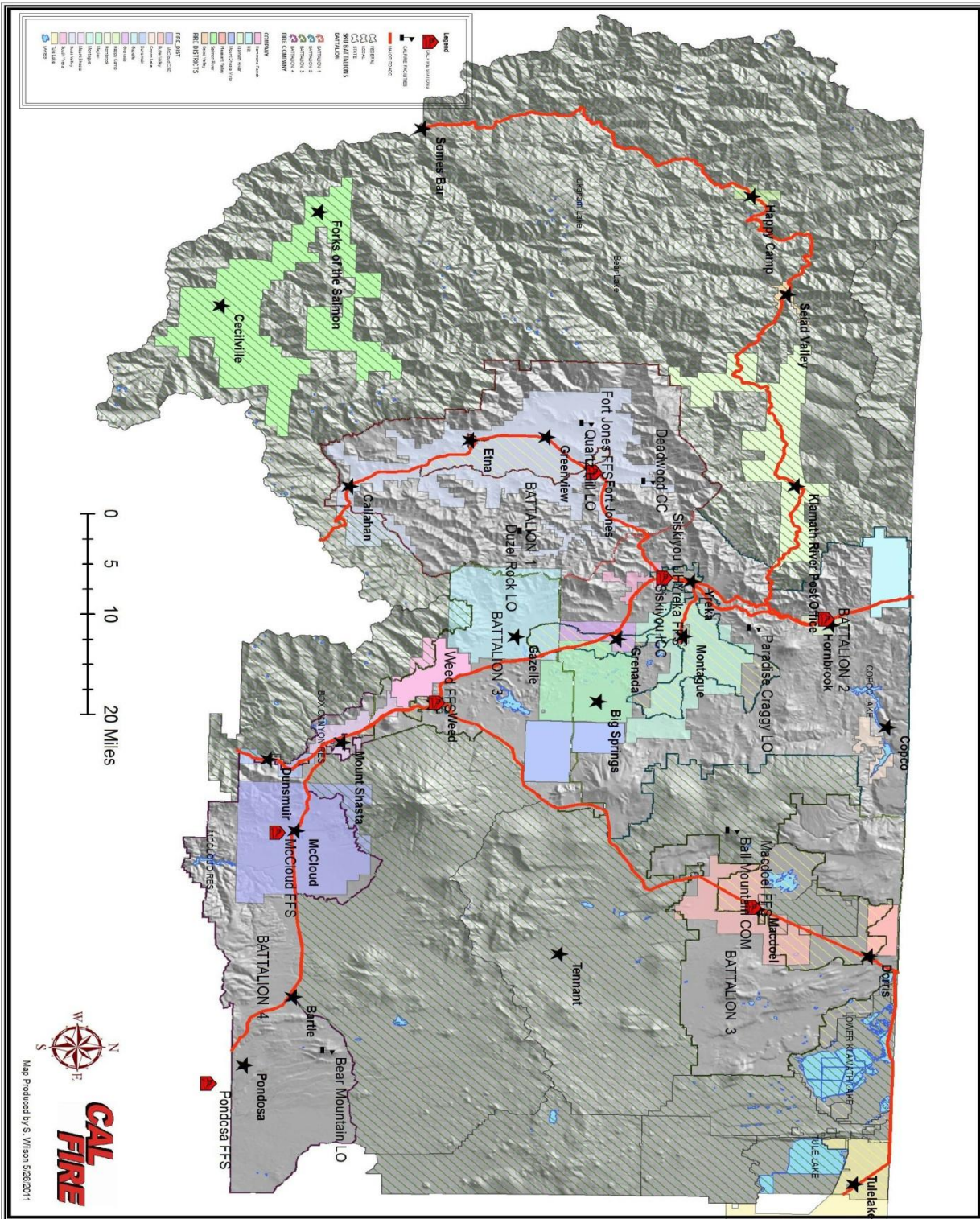




[illegible]



**Figure C: Local Government Agencies**  
**SUPPLEMENT:**



## ***ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IGNITION ANALYSIS REPORTING (2010)***

### **2010 Siskiyou Unit Ignitions Analysis**

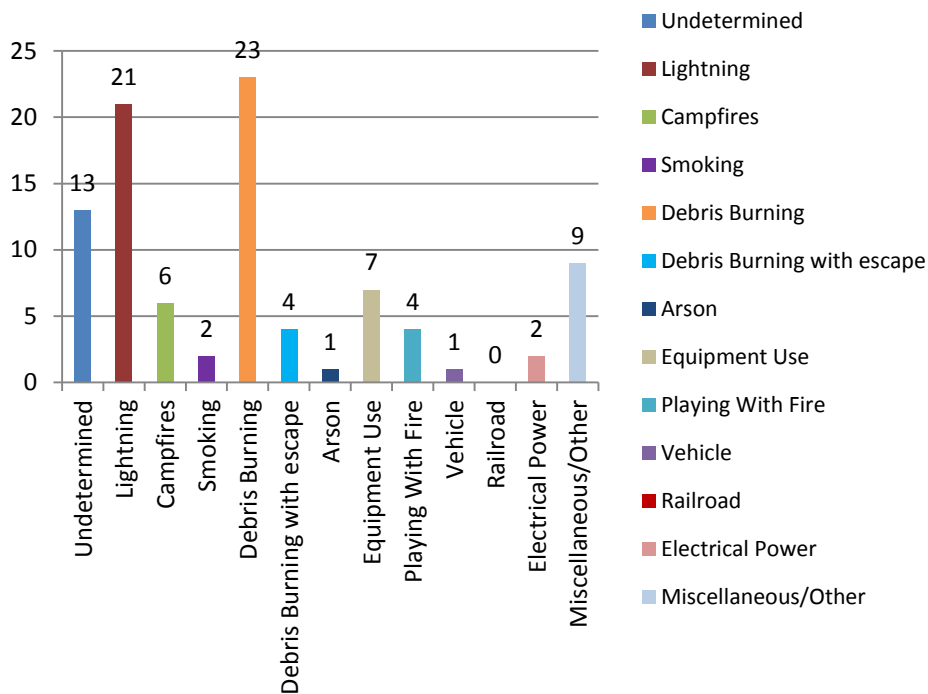
In 2010 there were 93 fires within the Siskiyou Unit State Responsibility Area (SRA). Included in these statistics are the 23 calls within SRA to debris burns without escape. These statistics do not include assistance to Local Government Agencies (LRA) and Federal Government Agency (FRA) fires. In 2010 lightning was the leading ignition source for fires in the Unit. This is consistent with historical data which shows lightning as the number one cause of fires within the Unit. Equipment ignitions contributed to the most acres burned.

### **2010 SISKIYOU UNIT FIRE CAUSES**

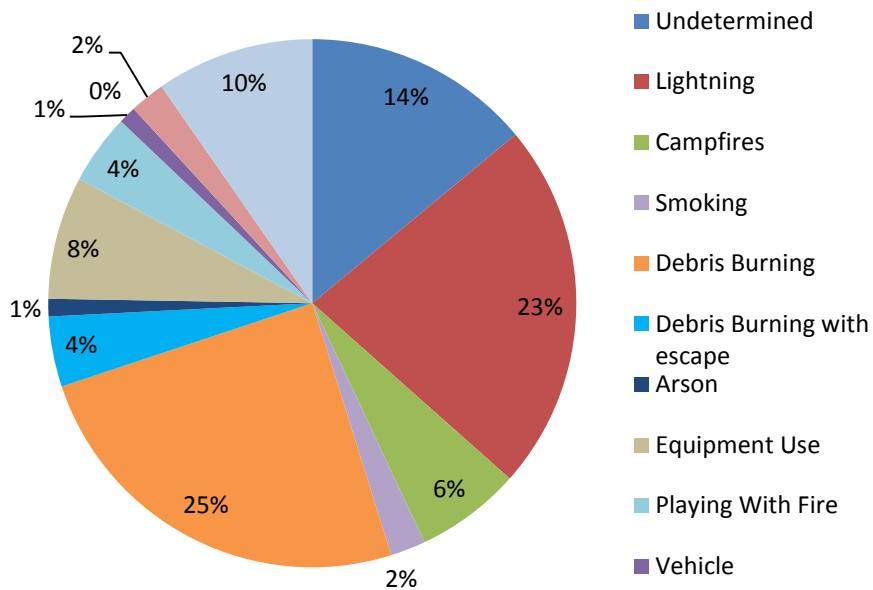
2010 Causes	Number by Cause	Acres Burned
Undetermined	13	12.42
Lightning Fires	21	7.5
Campfire	6	.1
Smoking	2	1.01
Debris Burning	23	0
Debris Burning with Escape	4	1.6
Arson	1	.1
Equipment	7	18.7
Playing With Fire	4	.2
Vehicle	1	8.2
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	2	7.1
Miscellaneous/Other	9	4.45
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>61.38</b>



## 2010 Siskiyou Unit - Total Ignitions By Cause



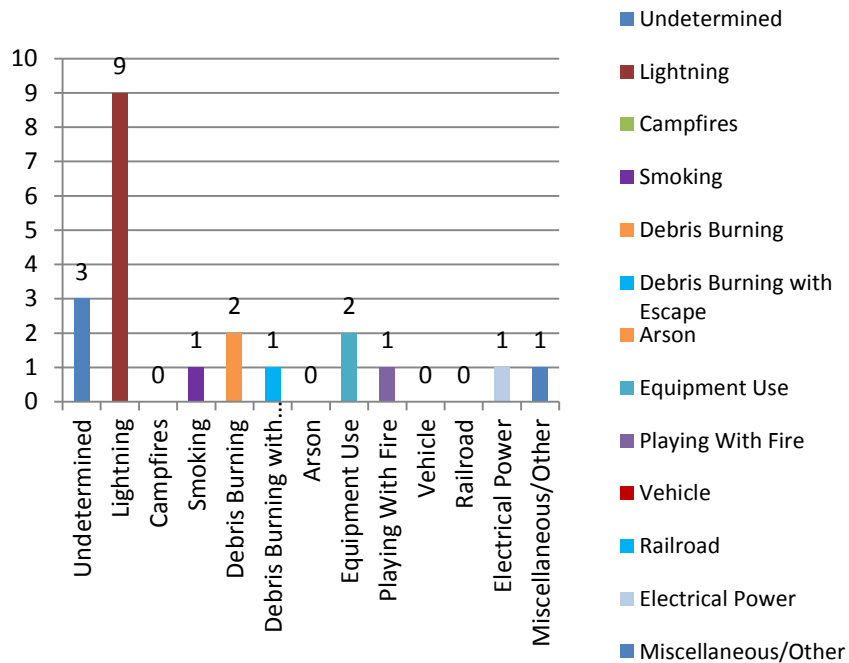
## 2010 Siskiyou Unit Ignitions - Cause Percentages



## 2010 SCOTT VALLEY BATTALION IGNITIONS

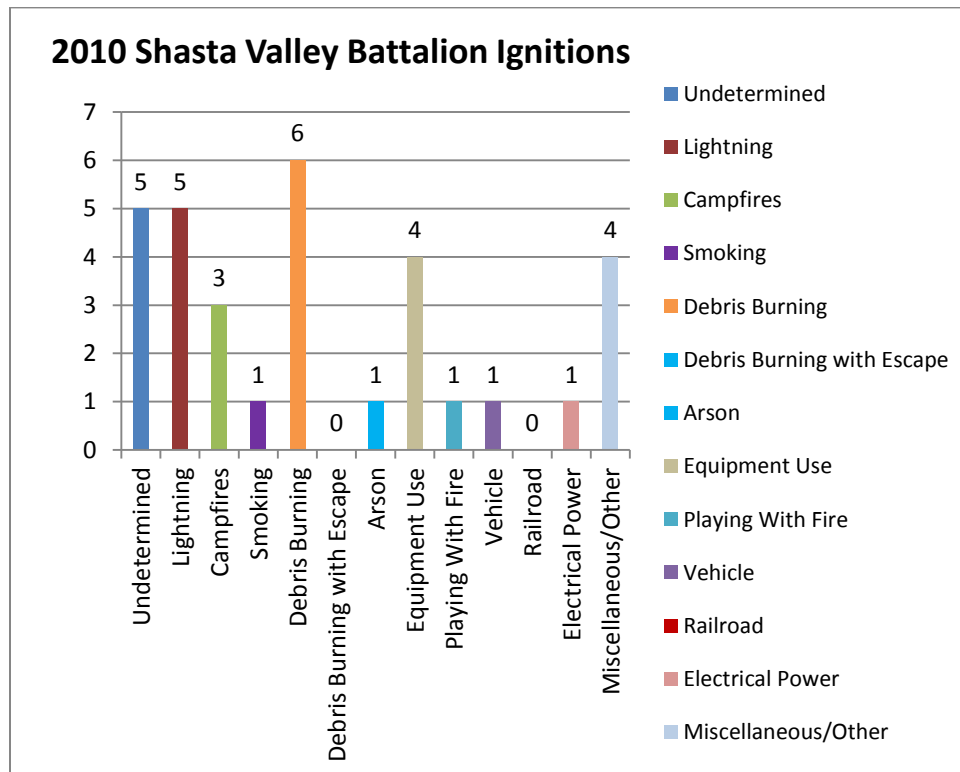
2010 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	3	.52
Lightning Fires	9	2.95
Campfires	0	0
Smoking	0	0
Debris Burning	2	0
Debris Burn with Escape	1	.5
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	2	.3
Playing With Fire	1	.1
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	1	.1
Miscellaneous/Other	1	.2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4.67</b>

### 2010 Scott Valley Battalion Ignitions



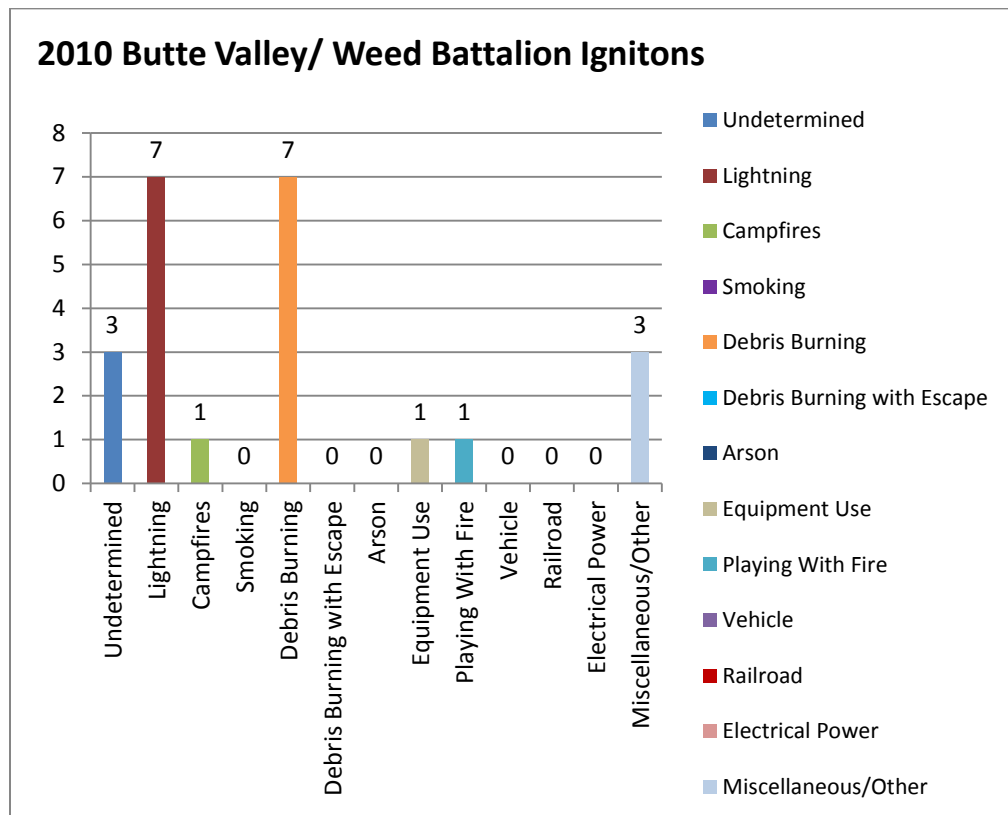
## 2010 SHASTA VALLEY BATTALION IGNITIONS

2010 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	5	.9
Lightning Fires	5	3.95
Campfires	3	.1
Smoking	1	.01
Debris Burning	6	0
Debris Burn with Escape	0	.1
Arson	1	.1
Equipment Use	4	7.4
Playing With Fire	1	.1
Vehicle	1	8.2
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	1	7
Miscellaneous/Other	4	.25
<b>Total:</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28.01</b>



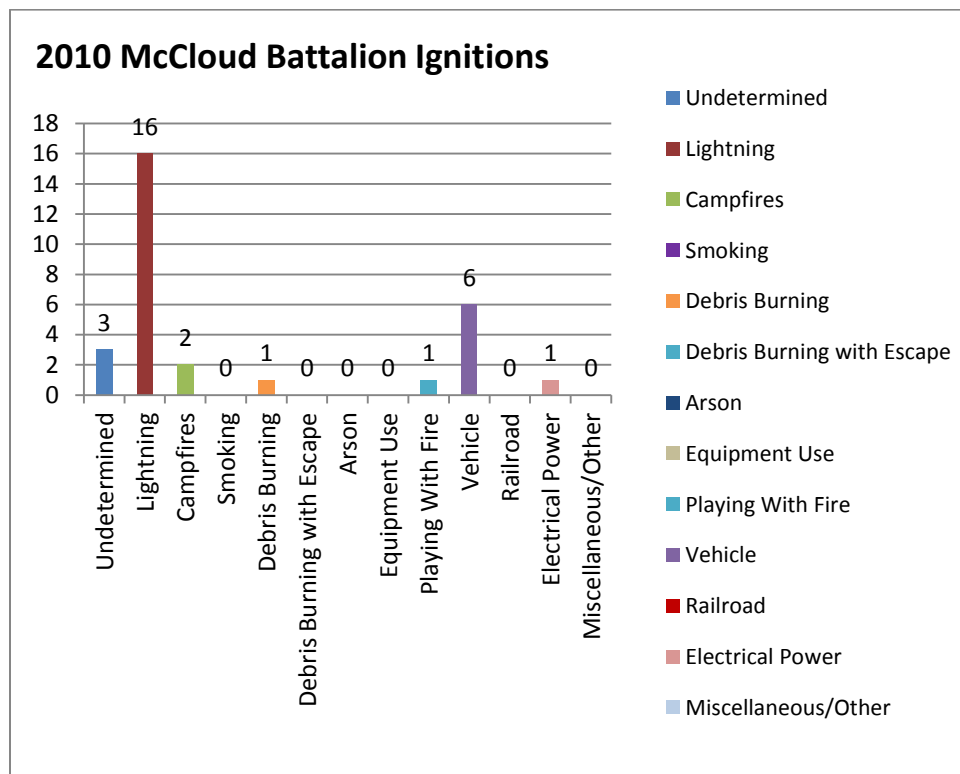
## 2010 BUTTE VALLEY/WEED BATTALION IGNITIONS

2010 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	3	1
Lightning Fires	7	.6
Campfires	1	0
Smoking	0	0
Debris Burning	7	.7
Debris Burn with Escape	0	0
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	1	11
Playing With Fire	1	0
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Power Lines	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	3	3
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16.3</b>



## 2010 MCCLOUD BATTALION IGNITIONS

2010 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	2	10
Lightning Fires	0	0
Campfires	2	0
Smoking	1	1
Debris Burning	10	0
Debris Burn with Escape	1	.30
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	1	0
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Power Lines	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	1	1
Total:	18	.09



## ***ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IGNITION ANALYSIS REPORTING (2011)***

### **2011 Siskiyou Unit Achievements**

The Siskiyou Unit continually strives to maintain and grow our relationships with all stakeholders and agencies within the Unit. In 2011, new fuel reduction projects were identified within the Unit that will serve to protect wildland urban interfaces areas (WUI) and watersheds. The existing Soap Creek Ridge Fuel Break was scheduled for maintenance. By completing this maintenance the fuel break will continue to serve in protecting the citizens and resources of Siskiyou County. New fire prevention signs for the entire Unit were purchased to assist in educating the public with important fire safety messages. Fire prevention education and the FIRE PALS program was conducted at numerous local school programs, the Siskiyou County Fair and other community outreaches throughout the year.

### **2011 Siskiyou Prevention Bureau Achievements**

Ignition data from 2010 was analyzed and disseminated to each Battalion in the Unit. Based on this ignition analysis, the Prevention Bureau focused on reducing the total number of illegal debris burning through both education and enforcement actions throughout the Unit. The Prevention Bureau worked closely with the Scott Valley Battalion's Etna Rodeo Outreach where burn permits are issued to a large number of residents. The public was educated on the importance of proper debris burning safety and the legal requirements pertaining to the permit. Residents in Siskiyou County were educated by the Prevention Bureau on the proper care, maintenance and benefits of a "defensible space" home. These educational opportunities occurred at the Siskiyou County Fair, public outreaches, and at private residences. Extra patrol efforts were initiated in the Scott Valley Battalion in areas where illegal campfires were becoming more frequent. After the extra patrols were initiated the campfire problems in those areas dissipated. The Prevention Bureau worked closely with other governmental agencies on fuel modification projects and on law enforcement cases involving fires. In an effort to reduce the total number of undetermined fires in the Unit, investigation reports from the field were reviewed for accuracy and completeness.

## 2011 Siskiyou Unit Ignitions Analysis

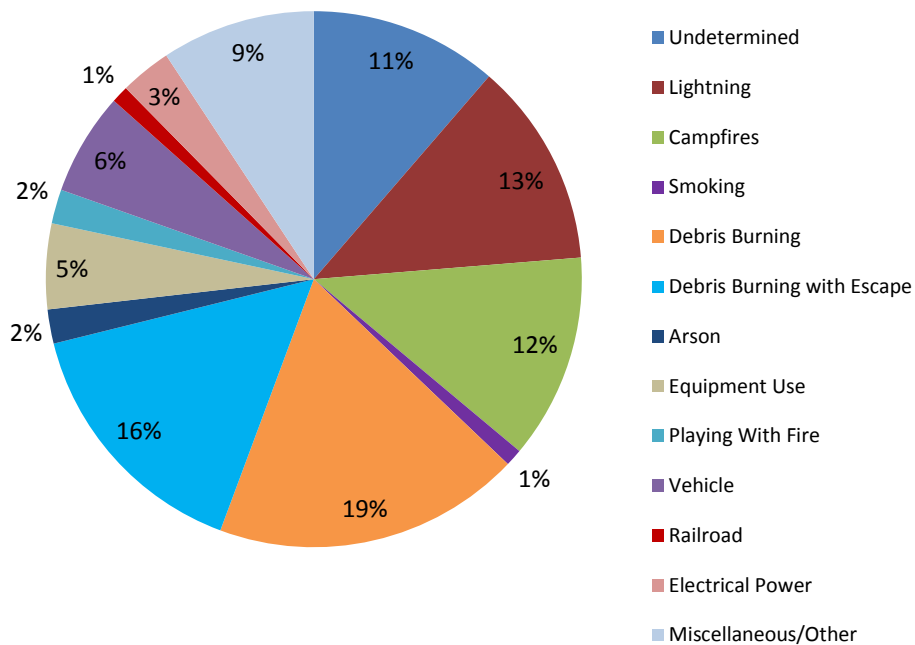
In 2011 there were 97 Fires within the Siskiyou Unit State Responsibility Area (SRA). These statistics do not include assistance to Local Government Agencies (LRA) and Federal Government Agency (FRA) fires. Included in these statistics are the 18 calls within SRA to debris burns without escape. In 2011 debris burning was the leading cause of ignitions in the Unit. After analyzing these ignitions we attribute the ignition problem to a lack of public education on fire safety and burning laws and regulations. Historically, lightning is the number one ignition source in the county. In 2011, lightning ignitions were lower than historical averages. Equipment ignitions burned 149.51 acres within the Unit. Equipment use is prevalent in rural Siskiyou County. Often times this equipment use occurs in areas where light, flashy fuels also exist. The Hawkinsville Fire, ignited by equipment burned the most acreage in the unit, totaling 120 acres. In 2011, illegal campfires ignitions increased from the previous year. A majority of the campfires were abandoned or unattended and did not escape. Several of the campfires were located in the Scott Valley Battalion along Kidder Creek and Shackleford Creek. An increase in illicit recreational activity has been observed in these areas. Additional law enforcement patrols were increased in the Shackleford Creek and Kidder Creek areas as a result of the campfire problem. In the Shasta Valley Battalion, “No Campfire” signs were posted in areas prone to illegal campfires to address the problem. Dumping of hot ashes resulted in five ignitions in 2011. The majority of these ignitions occurred in the early winter period when temperatures were cold and when the vegetative fuels were still dry enough to ignite. These ignitions fall under the other/miscellaneous cause class. The total number of undetermined fires was down slightly from 2010, but still constitutes a large portion of the ignition causes. This can be attributed to an increase in trained personnel who conduct origin and cause investigations in the Unit.

## 2011 SISKIYOU UNIT FIRE CAUSES

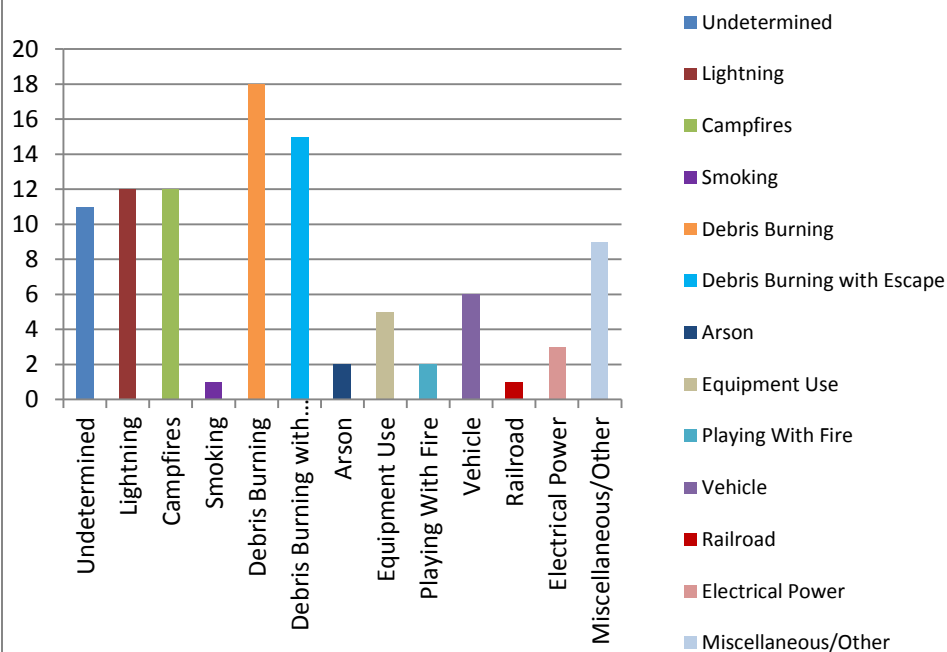
2011 Causes	Number by Cause	Acres Burned
Undetermined	11	0.86
Lightning Fires	12	43.06
Campfire	12	0.47
Smoking	1	0.01
Debris Burning	18	0
Debris Burning with Escape	15	17.46
Arson	2	0.45
Equipment	5	149.51
Playing With Fire	2	1.1
Vehicle	6	0.51
Railroad	1	0.01
Electrical Power	3	3.7
Miscellaneous/Other	9	0.52
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>217.75</b>



## 2011 Siskiyou Unit Ignitions-Cause Percentages



## 2011 Siskiyou Unit - Total Ignitions By Cause



## **SCOTT VALLEY BATTALION 2011 – Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

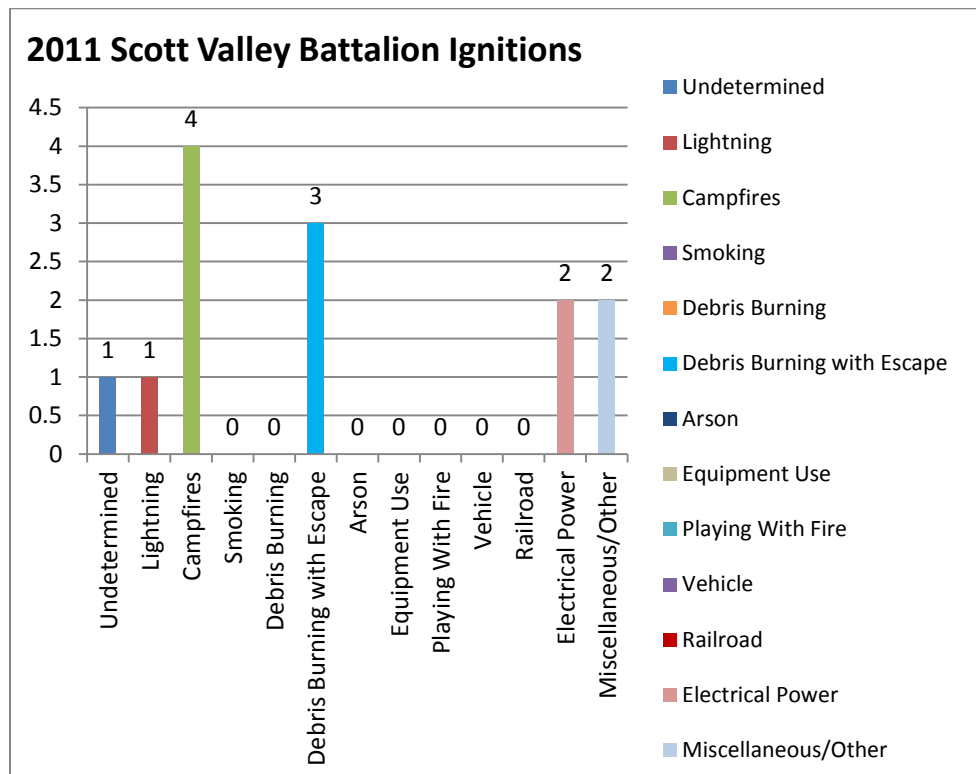
In 2011 the Scott Valley Battalion increased the number of Defensible Space Inspections (PRC 4291) in an effort to educate the public one-on-one. The number of public outreaches was increased throughout the Battalion in an effort to educate as many residents as possible on defensible space, burning laws and regulations and safety messages. The prevention safety signs located throughout the Battalion were evaluated and are in the process of being updated to meet our ignition problems. We continued to support the Fire Safe Councils in efforts to provide a living environment within the wildland urban interface (WUI). In Cooperation with timber companies in the Battalion fire access roads were maintained in fire prone areas.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2011 there was a significant drop in ignitions throughout the Scott Valley Battalion. Reasons for the decrease in fire ignitions were partially the result of wetter and cooler local weather pattern throughout the Battalion. There was also a significant decrease in lightning activity in the Battalion. Lightning historically has been the leading cause of fires in the Scott Valley Battalion. Illegal campfires and debris burning were leading ignitions within the Battalion. After analyzing these ignitions we attribute the debris burning problems to a lack of public education on fire safety and burning laws and regulations. Extra patrols in illegal campfire area were implemented and the campfire problems decreased in these areas as a result. The other ignitions within the Battalion were consistent with historical ignition data.

## 2011 SCOTT VALLEY BATTALION IGNITIONS

2011 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	1	0.25
Lightning Fires	1	0.1
Campfires	4	0.04
Smoking	0	0
Debris Burning	0	0
Debris Burn with Escape	3	2.1
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	0	0
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	2	3.1
Miscellaneous/Other	2	0.1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5.69</b>



## **SHASTA VALLEY BATTALION 2011- Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

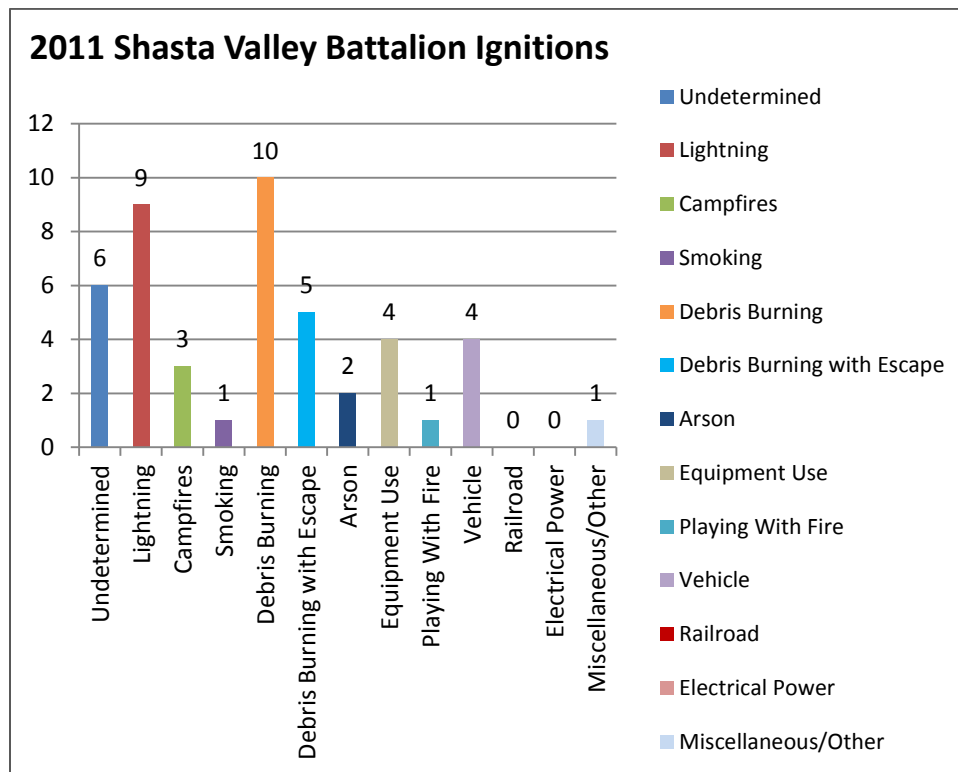
Prevention signs located throughout the Battalion were assessed and updated to reflect the fire problem. The Fire Safe Councils located within the Battalion were supported with fuel reduction programs and fuelbreak projects in efforts to provide a safe living environment within the wildland urban interface (WUI). Numerous public outreaches were implemented to educate the public on defensible space, burning laws and regulations and safety messages. No campfire signs were posted at two locations with known fire problems

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2011 there was a significant increase in ignitions throughout the Shasta Valley Battalion. Analyzing these ignitions we found that the leading causes of ignitions were contributed to debris burning and lightning. Historically debris burning and lightning have been the leading ignition causes in the Battalion. After analyzing the data we found debris burning ignitions with escape were actually down from 2010. The debris ignitions problem can also be attributed to a lack of public education on burning laws, and regulations. Weather is also a contributing factor to the spread of fire from debris piles. This results from frequent afternoon strong winds that commonly occur throughout the Battalion. Within the Battalion there were decreases in ignitions associated with playing with fire and power lines.

## 2011 SHASTA VALLEY BATTALION IGNITONS

2011 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	6	0.3
Lightning Fires	9	25.03
Campfires	3	0.02
Smoking	1	0.1
Debris Burning	10	0
Debris Burn with Escape	5	14.03
Arson	2	0.45
Equipment Use	4	149.5
Playing With Fire	1	0.1
Vehicle	4	0.4
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	1	0.01
<b>Total:</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>189.94</b>



## **BUTTE VALLEY/WEED BATTALION 2011 - Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

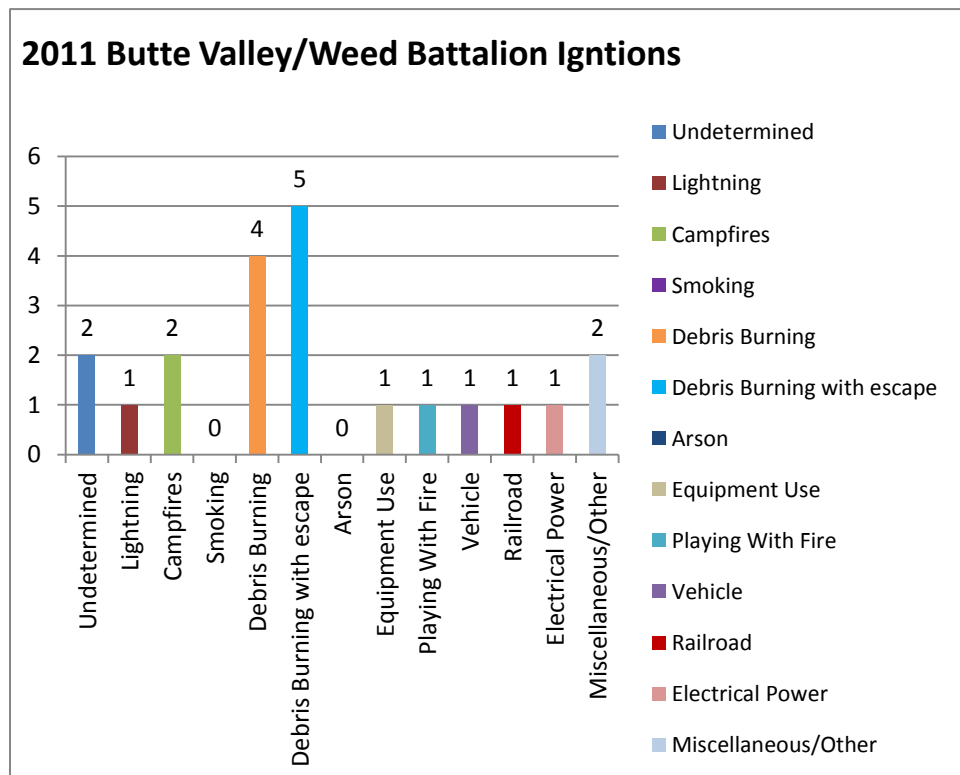
Continued collaboration with Fire Safe Councils, US Forest Service, Fire Districts and stake holders in the Battalion have resulted in several grants for additional fire fuel reduction projects and water storage. Support of preexisting Fire Safe Council projects have been on going through out the Battalion. Efforts are being made at recruiting additional VIP's in the Battalion to help with public education and inspections. Defensible space inspections were conducted throughout the year focusing on completing the Hammond Ranch subdivision as well as Lake Shastina. Stolen Fire Prevention signs have been replaced and we added one additional sign near the Mt Shasta Vista subdivision. Community outreach programs were attended by Station personnel in multiple communities and schools in the Battalion. Fourth of July patrols and education saw a reduction of firework complaints and illegal firework confiscation. Ground work for additional access and egress road improvements for key access areas in the Battalion were made.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2011 the number of ignitions in the Battalion were slightly lower than historical numbers, however the majority of the ignitions were human caused. There was a significant decrease in lightning activity in the Battalion do to a wetter and cooler weather pattern throughout the year. Debris fires were the leading cause of fires, three of which escaped control. Although the total number of fires was down slightly the fact that human caused fires remain a significant threat to the Battalion. Public education on burning regulations and safety will remain at the forefront of our prevention efforts

## 2011 BUTTE VALLEY/ WEED BATTALION IGNITIONS

2011 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	2	0.01
Lightning Fires	1	17.6
Campfires	2	0.11
Smoking	0	0
Debris Burning	4	0
Debris Burn with Escape	5	1
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	1	0.01
Playing With Fire	1	1
Vehicle	1	0.01
Railroad	1	0.01
Electrical Power	1	0.6
Miscellaneous/Other	2	0.01
<b>Total:</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19.36</b>



## **MCCLOUD BATTALION 2011- Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

Fuel Reduction work started on the Azalea Fuel Break. This project is located within the CAL TRANS right-of-way east of Interstate 5 between the cities of Mt. Shasta and Dunsmuir. In addition, for the first time in the Siskiyou unit, goats were used successfully to maintain an existing fuel break near the Lake Siskiyou Campground. The Siskiyou Bear Lookout was staffed during lightning and high fire danger days. Personnel from the Battalion and Deadwood Conservation camp interacted with local Fire Safe Councils and also provided public education through public contact. Firefighting staff completed LE-100 inspections (Public Resources Code 4291 –“Defensible Space”) within the McCloud Battalion.

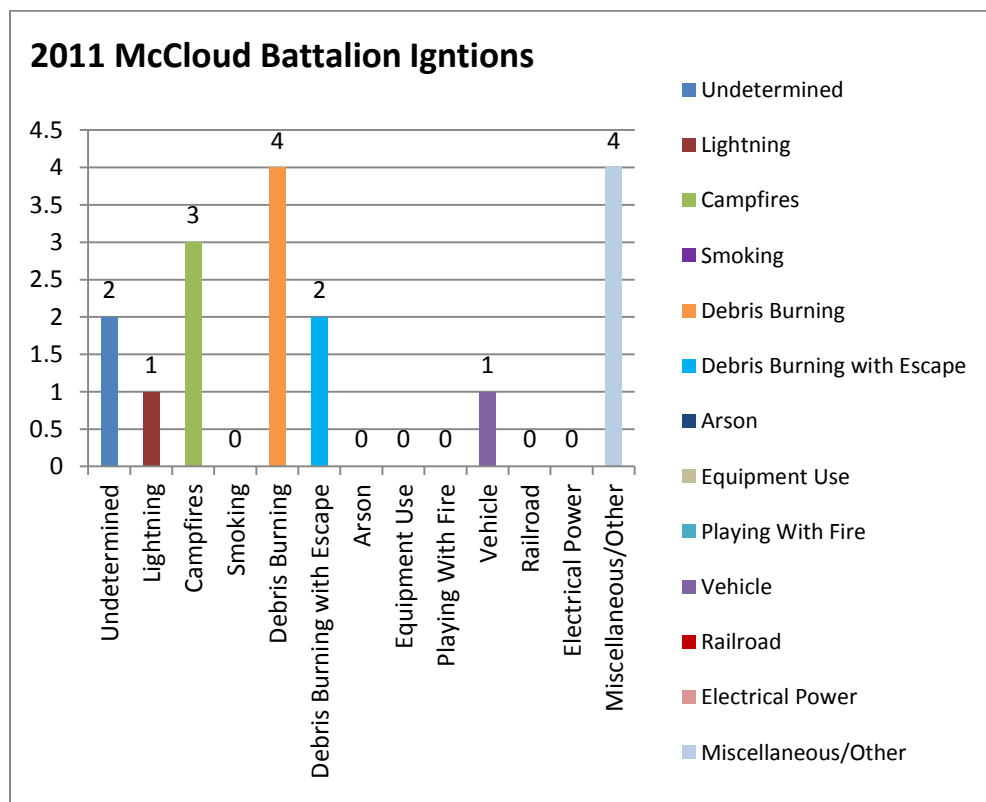
### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2011 the number of ignitions in the Battalion was similar to those occurring in 2010. The majority of the fires in the Battalion were human caused with debris burning leading the however the majority of the ignitions were human caused. There was a significant decrease in lightning activity in the Battalion do to a wetter and cooler weather pattern throughout the year. Debris ignitions were the leading cause of fires two of which escaped control. The numbers of ignitions resulting from debris burning were actually down from 2010. The debris ignitions problem can also be attributed to a lack of public education on burning laws, and regulations. Hot Ashes were the leading cause of other/miscellaneous ignitions. Lack of education and negligence on proper ash disposal is the cause of many of this fire problem.



## 2011 MCCLOUD BATTALION IGNITIONS

2011 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	2	0.3
Lightning Fires	1	0.33
Campfires	3	0.3
Smoking	0	0
Debris Burning	4	0
Debris Burn with Escape	2	0.33
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	0	0
Vehicle	1	0.1
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	4	0.4
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1.76</b>



## ***ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IGNITION ANALYSIS REPORTING (2012)***

The Siskiyou Unit continued to maintain and grow our relationships with all stakeholders and agencies within the Unit. In 2012, fuel reduction projects were implemented and continued within the Unit that will serve to protect wildland urban interface areas (WUI) and watersheds. Maintenance was accomplished on the existing Soap Creek Ridge Fuel Break, this included the piling and burning of undergrowth vegetation. In addition, brush cutting and chipping was completed on the Azalea Fuelbreak. The Azalea Fuelbreak is located along Interstate 5 near the cities of Mt. Shasta and Dunsmuir. Throughout the year, fire prevention education and the FIRE PALS program was conducted at numerous local school programs, at the Siskiyou County Fair and at other community outreaches. The Siskiyou Unit Training Bureau continued on-going training, education and certification to all CAL FIRE personnel assigned to the Siskiyou Unit. The Training Bureau also provided training and education support for several local government volunteer fire departments throughout Siskiyou County. All Cal Fire personnel were brought up to date to the California mandated training requirements. The Cooperative Agreement for the County Fire Warden, College of the Siskiyou's and CALFIRE Siskiyou Unit was updated. This allowed the ability to provide a high standard of training to all County Fire Departments in cooperation with CALFIRE. The Siskiyou Unit, in cooperation with the Klamath National Forest, Shasta Trinity National Forest and many local government fire departments, conducted an annual two-day multiagency drill (Siskiyou County Interagency Hall Drills) in July. This drill provided annual re-certification for wildland fire training for the Siskiyou County fire services. Local, State and Federal wildland firefighters that participated in the drill improved their skills, as well as created cooperative working relationships in an interagency environment.

### **2012 Siskiyou Prevention Bureau Achievements**

In 2012 the Siskiyou Unit investigated 130 total fires with various causes, of which 111 were vegetation fires. The ignition analysis showed that control burn escapes were the major cause of fires last year. Control burn escapes, illegal burning and illegal campfires were a main activity for prevention investigators.

During the year the prevention bureau had the following enforcement actions: 10 custodial arrests, 22 citations, 4 District Attorney Complaints, 5 cost recovery cases initiated, 35 warnings issued. The bureau also processed: 95 building permits and 10 zoning changes and/or use permit applications.

Fire prevention and education programs were conducted throughout the year. These accomplishments included: 60 fire prevention displays/presentations, over 18,000 public contacts, and 2,440 contacts with students through school programs. The prevention bureau processed 75 defensible space inspections for 2012 without citations having to be issued. There was over 100 media contacts made for fire information and/or prevention education. The Siskiyou Unit Pre-Fire Engineer was honored by the Siskiyou County Fire Safe Council as Agency Representative of the Year. Numerous hours of staff time was spent with outreaches to local and federal government cooperators and fire safe councils in aiding them in fire prevention efforts.

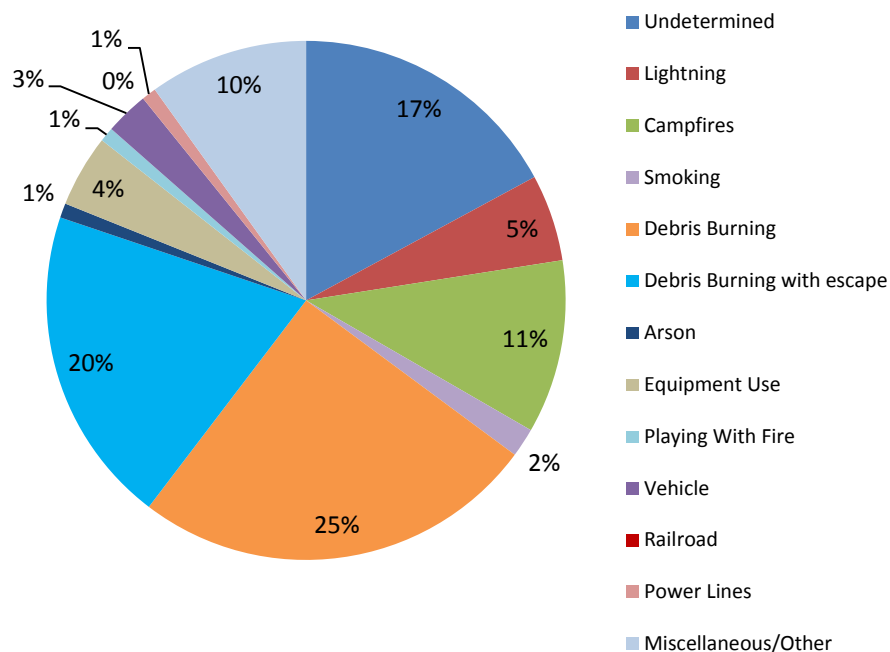
## 2012 Siskiyou Unit Ignitions Analysis

In 2012 there were 111 vegetation fires within the Siskiyou Unit State Responsibility Area (SRA). These statistics do not include assistance to Local Government Agency (LRA) and Federal Government Agency (FRA) fires. Included in these statistics are the 22 calls within SRA to debris burns without escape. In 2012 debris burning was the leading cause of ignitions in the Unit. The Oak Fire ignited by debris burning, burned 220 acres, resulting in the most acreage burned by a single fire in the Unit. These ignitions can be attributed to a dryer than normal weather conditions, lack of adequate clearance around debris burns, windy conditions and in some instances, complacency by the responsible parties. Historically, lightning has been the number one ignition source in the county. In 2012, lightning ignitions were lower than historical averages due to favorable weather conditions. Smoking and equipment ignitions were within historical averages. In 2012, illegal campfire ignitions were consistent from the previous year. A majority of the campfires were abandoned or unattended and did not escape. One campfire that escaped containment burned four acres in Weed. Additional law enforcement patrols were increased in this area. Dumping of hot ashes increased to six ignitions in 2012. These ignitions occurred during every season of the year and included both fireplace/woodstove ashes and barbecue ashes. A public service message regarding proper ashes handling was printed in local newspapers, and fire prevention signs were located within the unit with ashes prevention messages on them. These ignitions fall under the other/miscellaneous cause class. Fireworks were the ignition source on a series of three fires in the Butte Valley. The total number of undetermined fires in the unit increased to 19.

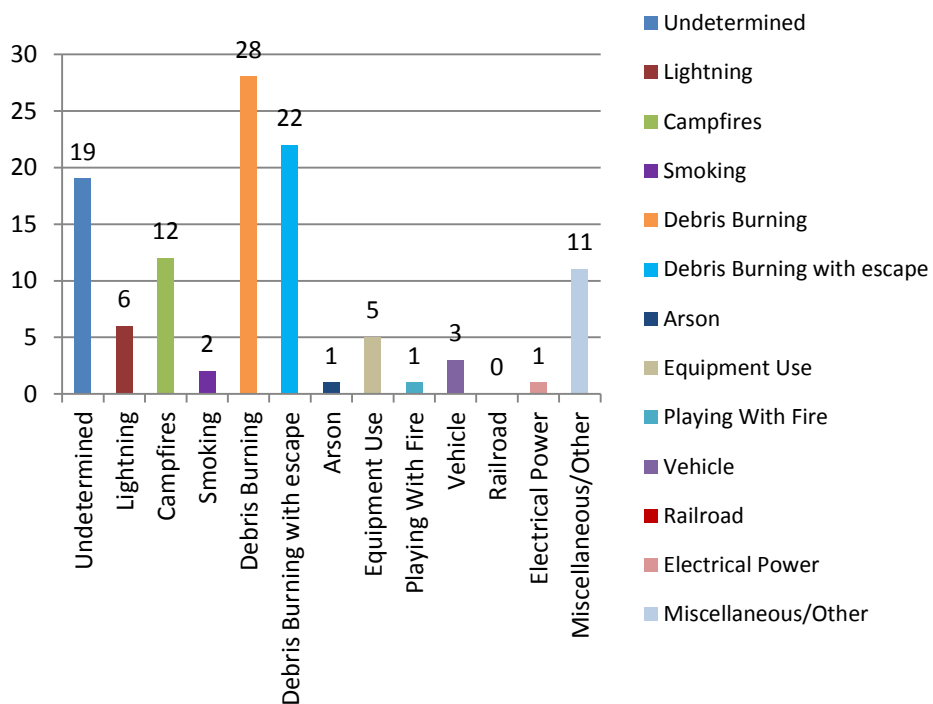
## 2012 SISKIYOU UNIT FIRE CAUSES

2012 Causes	Number by Cause	Acres Burned
Undetermined	19	10.1
Lightning Fires	6	15.5
Campfire	12	5.3
Smoking	2	0.02
Debris Burning	28	2.8
Debris Burning with Escape	22	355.4
Arson	1	0.01
Equipment	5	3.2
Playing With Fire	1	1.3
Vehicle	3	1.3
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	1	0.01
Miscellaneous/Other	11	3.71
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>398.55</b>

## 2012 Siskiyou Unit Ignitons - Cause Percentages



## 2012 Siskiyou Unit - Total Ignitons By Cause



## **SCOTT VALLEY BATTALION 2012- Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

In 2012 the Scott Valley Battalion had a reduction in the total number of Defensible Space Inspections. This was contributed to an increase in fire activity throughout Northern California and the Siskiyou Unit's inability to hire Public Resources Code 4291 Inspectors due to budgetary constraints. Battalion Personnel were assigned to conduct as many inspections as time permitted. The Scott Valley Battalion conducted several public outreaches to increase fire education awareness. During the outreach programs, burn permits were written and the public was educated on burning hazards and regulations.

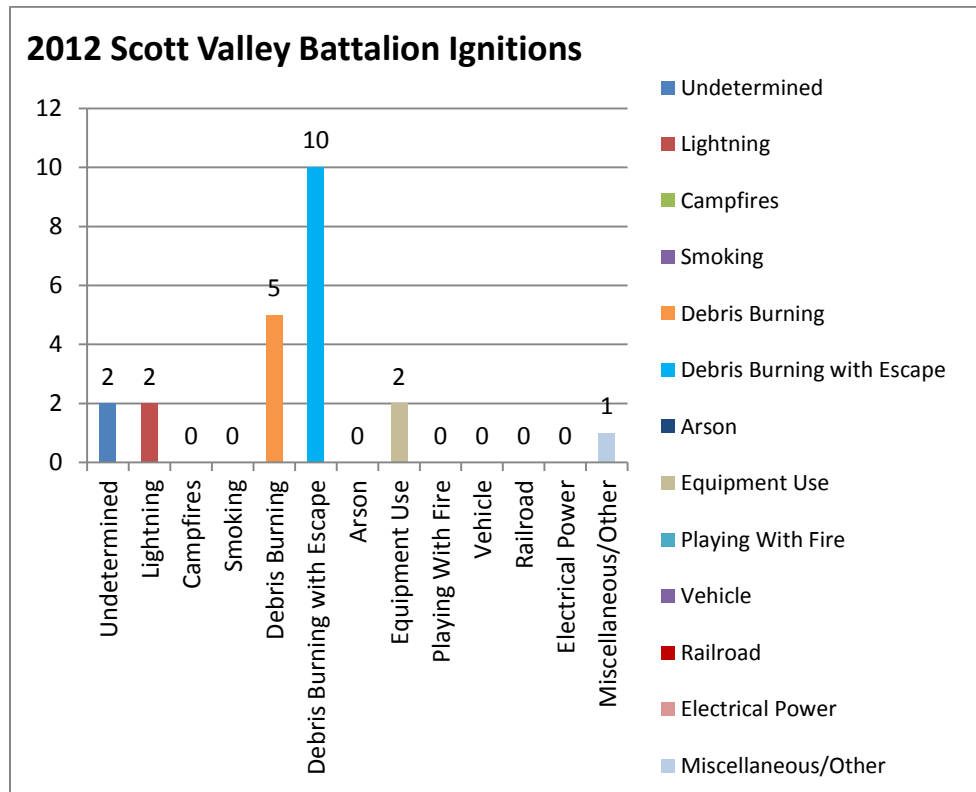
Some of the goals set in the 2011 fire plan were achieved by the following: Roads were evaluated and cleared to allow for fire access. Station personnel trained with local fire departments and fire agencies to maintain efficiency. The Scott Valley Battalion continued support and assistance to local fire safe councils. Fuel break data was captured and will be evaluated for effectiveness and ability to maintain the existing fuel breaks. Interactions with timber operators, timberland owners, and resource management staff were conducted to identify active timber operations. CALFIRE handcrews from Deadwood camp were utilized to maintain the existing Soap Creek Fuel Break.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2012 there was a significant increase in the total number of ignitions and total acres burned throughout the Battalion. After analyzing the data, contributing factors were a dryer than normal weather conditions, a lack of adequate clearance around the debris burns and light to moderate winds. Lightning historically is the leading cause of fires within the Scott Valley Battalion. Lightning fires in 2012 were lower than the historical averages. Other ignitions within the Battalion were consistent with the historical ignition data.

## 2012 SCOTT VALLEY BATTALION IGNITIONS

2012 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	2	0.06
Lightning Fires	2	6.4
Campfires	0	0
Smoking	0	0
Debris Burning	5	0.5
Debris Burn with Escape	10	230.6
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	0	0
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	1	0.1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5.69</b>



## **SHASTA VALLEY BATTALION 2012- Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

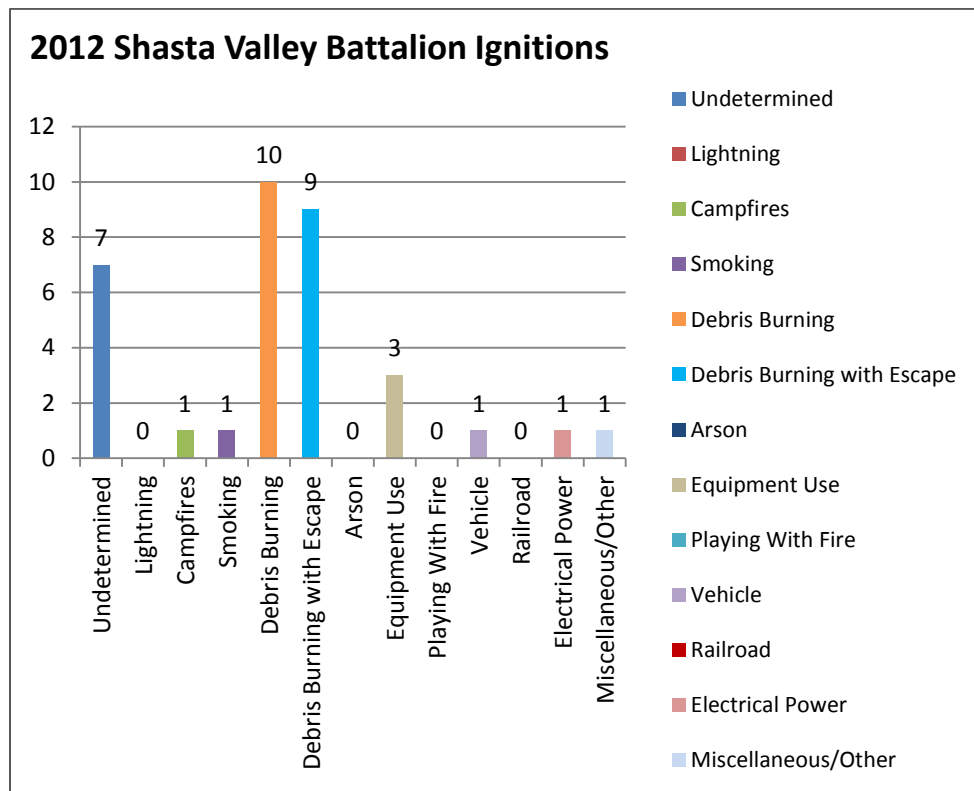
In 2012 the Shasta Valley Battalion saw a reduction in ignitions, incidents, and total acres burned; while California as a whole saw an increase in fire activity compared to the previous two years. The Battalion had a reduction in defensible space inspections due to increased fire activity throughout Northern California and the inability to hire Public Resources Code 4291 Inspectors. Battalion personnel continued attending community outreach programs providing education through public contact and participation at local events. Several fuel reduction and fuel break projects were completed along the western edge of Yreka through the local fire safe councils. These projects will benefit the city of Yreka in the event of a wildfire.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2012 there were a total of 34 ignitions in the Battalion which was down from 2011 due to the lack of normal lightning activity. The Battalion and the Unit as a whole experienced a decrease in lightning activity due to favorable weather conditions. Debris burning continues to be an issue in the Battalion contributing to a high percentage of ignitions and acres burned. These ignitions can be attributed to dry conditions, burning on windy days, lack of clearance around burn piles, and general complacency. All other ignitions are within historical averages.

## 2012 SHASTA VALLEY BATTALION IGNITIONS

2012 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	7	7.6
Lightning Fires	0	0
Campfires	1	0.1
Smoking	1	0.1
Debris Burning	10	1
Debris Burn with Escape	9	114.5
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	3	1.3
Playing With Fire	0	0
Vehicle	1	1
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	1	0.1
Miscellaneous/Other	1	0.4
<b>Total:</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>126.1</b>





## **BUTTE VALLEY BATTALION 2012- Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

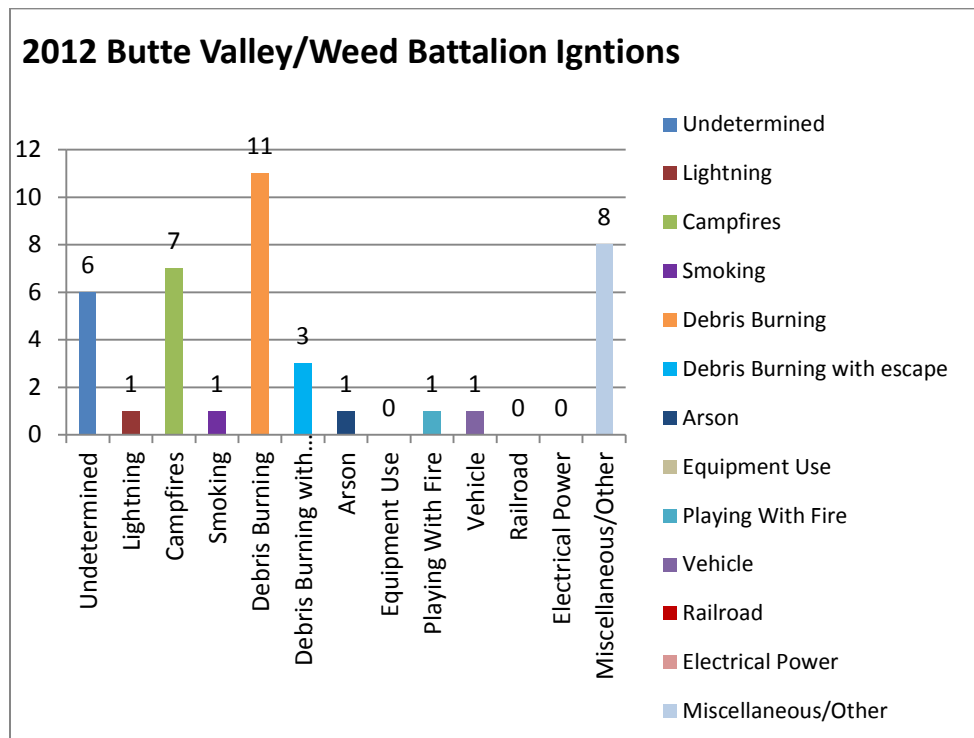
Collaboration with Fire Safe Councils, US Forest Service, Fire Districts and stake holders in the Battalion resulted in several grants for additional fire fuel reduction projects. Two additional water storage projects are ongoing with estimated completion dates set for 2013. The Greater Weed Fire Safe Council completed several fuel reduction projects in 2012 resulting in fuel reduction along egress and ingress routes and the construction of a new fuelbreak in the battalion. Recruiting efforts are still ongoing at recruiting additional VIP's in the Battalion to help with public education and inspections. Defensible space inspections were conducted throughout the year. These inspections were conducted throughout the entire Battalion and were focused on the Hammond Ranch, Butte Valley, and Weed areas. Community outreach programs were attended by station personnel in multiple communities and schools within the Battalion. An agreement was reached for the completion of an emergency access road in the Rancho Hills Community. Fourth of July patrols resulted in the confiscation a large amount of illegal fireworks.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2012 there were a total of 40 ignitions in the Butte Valley Battalion. The total number of fires increased from the previous year. The vast majority of these fires were human caused. There were a total of three lightning fires in the Battalion. The decrease in lightning activity in the battalion can be attributed to a wetter and cooler weather pattern throughout the year. Debris fires were the leading cause of fires, three of which escaped control. Public education on burning regulations and safety will remain at the forefront of our prevention efforts in dealing with this ignition problem. There were 7 campfire ignitions. One campfire that escaped containment burned four acres in Weed. Additional law enforcement patrols were increased in this area to eliminate further incidents. Fireworks were identified as the ignition source of series of four fires near Dorris.

## 2012 BUTTE VALLEY BATTALION IGNITIONS

2012 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	6	1.5
Lightning Fires	1	0.1
Campfires	7	4.7
Smoking	1	0.1
Debris Burning	11	1.1
Debris Burn with Escape	3	10.3
Arson	1	0.1
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	1	0.3
Vehicle	1	0.1
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	8	3.2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>21.5</b>



## **MCCLLOUD BATTALION 2012- Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

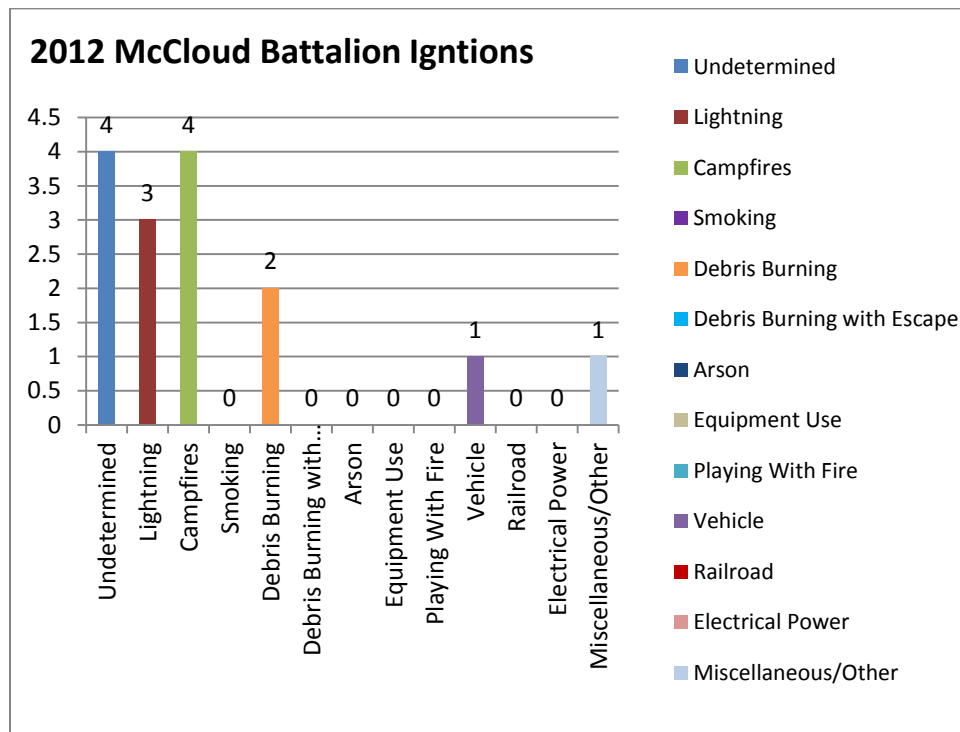
Fuel Reduction work continued on the Azalea, Francis Street, and Cantera projects. The Hobo Camp Fuel Break Project in Dunsmuir was completed. Five acres within the Mt. Shasta Forest subdivision was thinned in preparation for the construction of a new fire station. The Siskiyou Bear Lookout was staffed during lightning and high fire danger days. Personnel from the Battalion III and Deadwood Conservation camp interacted with local Fire Safe Councils and also provided public education through public contact. Firefighting staff conducted LE-100 inspections (Public Resources Code 4291 – “Defensible Space”) within the McCloud Battalion. During the Bagley Fire, the McCloud Battalion worked closely with the USFS incident management team to prevent the spread of the fire onto the Siskiyou Unit’s Direct Protection Area.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2012 the number of ignitions in the Battalion was slightly down from 2011. The majority of the fires in the Battalion were human caused. There was a decrease in debris burning. This can be attributed to better public education and inspections. Campfires continue to cause ignitions along the McCloud river corridor. Added law enforcement patrols were conducted in these areas. All other ignitions were within historical averages other than lightning which were less than historical averages.

## 2012 MCCLOUD BATTALION IGNITIONS

2012 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	4	0.4
Lightning Fires	3	0.3
Campfires	4	0.4
Smoking	0	0
Debris Burning	2	0.2
Debris Burn with Escape	0	0
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	0	0
Vehicle	1	0.2
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	1	0.1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1.6</b>



## ***ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IGNITION ANALYSIS REPORTING (2013)***

The Siskiyou Unit continued to maintain and grow our relationships with all stakeholders and agencies within the Unit. In 2013, fuel reduction projects were planned and continued within the Unit that will serve to protect wildland urban interface areas (WUI) and watersheds. Maintenance was completed on the existing Soap Creek Ridge Fuel Break, this included the piling and burning of undergrowth vegetation. Plans were formulated with the California Conservation Corps (CCC) to conduct maintenance on the East Weed Fuel Break and to perform fuel reduction work on the Tamar project. Two fire suppression water tanks scheduled to be constructed in the Pleasant Valley and Hammond Ranch Subdivisions awaited building permits.

Throughout the year, fire prevention education and the FIRE PALS program was again conducted at numerous local school programs, at the Siskiyou County Fair and at other community outreaches. The Siskiyou Unit Training Bureau continued on-going training, education and certification to all CAL FIRE personnel assigned to Siskiyou Unit. The Training Bureau also assisted and participated in county-wide training drills in conjunction with CAL OES, Local Volunteer Fire Departments, CHP and Siskiyou County Sheriff Office. The collaboration between CAL FIRE and the College of the Siskiyous continues to improve with the possibility of adding a Fire Captain A position at the College to manage the Fire Technology program through a Schedule A contract. The Siskiyou Unit, in cooperation with the Klamath National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest and many local government fire departments, conducted an annual two day multi-agency drill (Siskiyou County Interagency Eric Hall Drills) in June. This drill provides annual re-certification for wildland fire training. Local, state and federal wildland firefighters that participate in the drill improve their skills as well as create working relationships in an interagency environment.

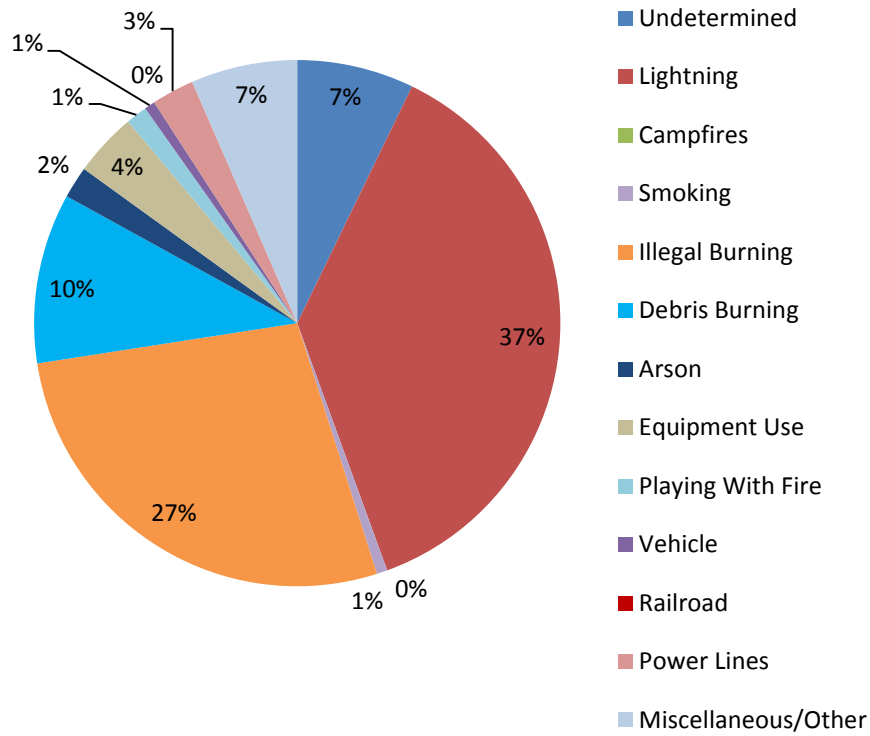
### **2013 Siskiyou Prevention Bureau Achievements**

In 2013 the Siskiyou Unit investigated 186 total fires with various causes, of which 111 were vegetation fires. Lightning was the number one cause of ignitions within the Unit. The ignition analysis showed that control burn escapes were the major preventable cause of our fires last year. However, we were able to reduce the amount by a third from 2012. In addition to control burn escapes, investigating illegal burning was a main activity for prevention investigators. Three fires within the Siskiyou Unit were determined to be caused by arson.

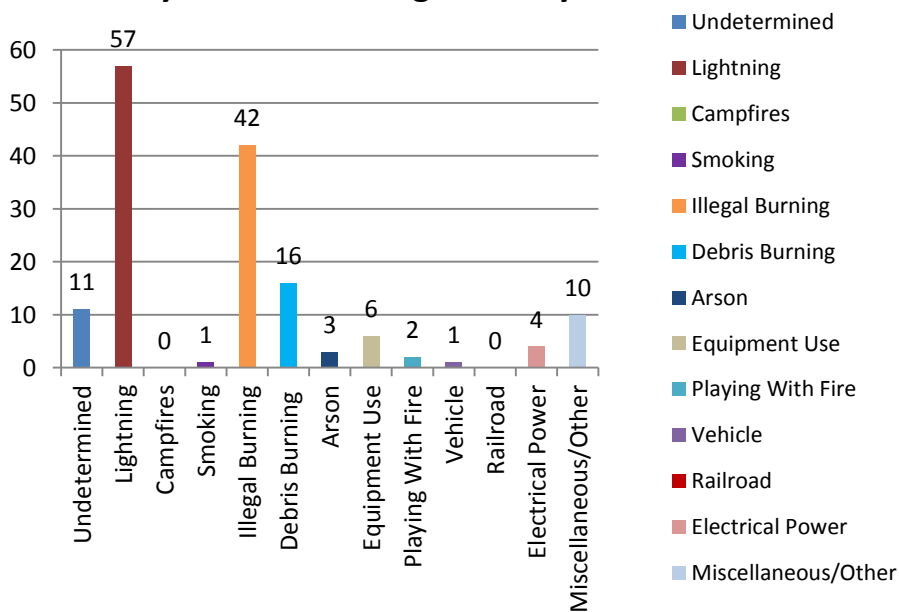
During the year, the prevention bureau took the following enforcement actions: 13 custodial arrests, 21 citations, 7 District Attorney Complaints, 15 cost recovery cases initiated, 18 warnings issued. The bureau also processed: 103 building permits and 9 zoning changes and/or use permit applications. During the Fourth of July Fireworks Patrol more than four thousand pounds of illegal fireworks were confiscated by Siskiyou fire prevention personnel constituting perhaps the largest confiscation of illegal fireworks ever in the Siskiyou Unit.

Fire prevention and education programs were conducted throughout the year. These accomplishments included: 72 fire prevention displays/presentations, over 12,030 public contacts, and 2,600 contacts with students through school programs. The prevention bureau processed 705 defensible space inspections for 2013 without citations having to be issued. There was over 150 media contacts made for fire information and/or prevention education. Our Fire Prevention Specialist was awarded a Directors' Superior Accomplishment Award for her work in establishing a successful Fire PALS program that delivers fire safety messages to the youth of Siskiyou County. Numerous hours of staff time was spent with outreaches to local and federal government cooperators and fire safe councils in aiding them in fire prevention efforts.

### 2013 Siskiyou Unit Ignitons - Cause Percentages



### 2013 Siskiyou Unit - Total Ignitons By Cause



## **Scott Valley Battalion 2013-Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

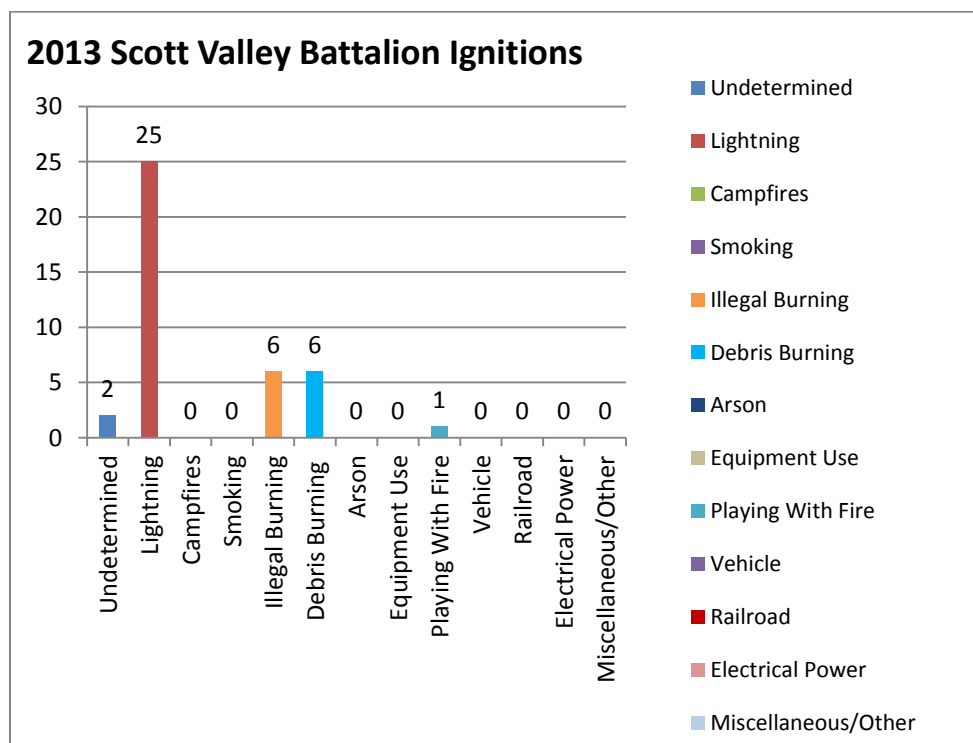
In 2013 fire prevention was a priority within the Battalion. One of the elements of this was fire prevention signs that were strategically located throughout the Battalion. The purpose of these signs was to educate residents and visitors regarding the ignition problems that exist in the Scott Valley. Collaborative efforts were initiated between battalion personnel, and private landowners to maintain roads for fire access. Existing Fire Safe Council fuelbreaks were evaluated to determine that they were practical, strategically located and complete. As a result, CAL FIRE has expressed to the local fire safe councils the importance of early involvement and collaboration to insure fuelbreaks are strategically located and completed in order to maximize protection for the citizens of the Scott Valley. Numerous public contacts were made by battalion personnel throughout the year.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2013, there were a total of 40 ignitions in the Battalion which was up from 2012 due to an increase in lightning activity. The Battalion and the Unit as a whole experienced an increase in lightning activity due to unfavorable weather conditions. Lightning caused fires resulted in the highest amount of acres burned in the Battalion. In 2013, debris burn fires were down from 2012 and the burned acreages associated with debris burning decreased by 227 acres. The decrease in debris burning escapes can be attributed to better education techniques through public contacts, press releases, radio messages, updated prevention sign messages and inspections. All other ignitions were within historical averages.

## 2013 SCOTT VALLEY BATTALION IGNITONS

2013 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	2	2
Lightning Fires	25	5
Campfires	0	0
Smoking	0	0
Illegal Burning	6	0
Debris Burning	6	2.7
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	1	0.1
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>9.8</b>





## **Shasta Valley Battalion 2013-Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

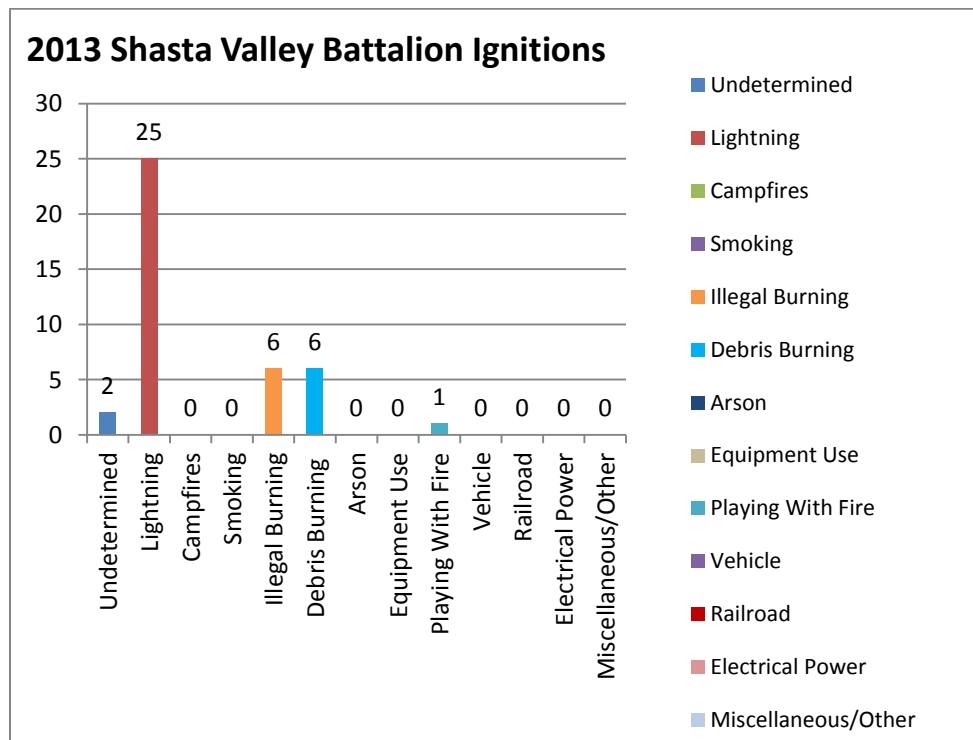
In 2013 the Shasta Valley Battalion saw an increase in ignitions and incidents, while total acres burned was down from 2012. The Battalion had a reduction in defensible space inspections due to increased fire activity throughout Northern California and the inability to hire 4291 Inspectors. Battalion personnel continued attending community outreach programs providing education through public contact and participation at local events. Several fuel reduction and fuel break projects were completed along the western edge of Yreka through the local fire safe councils. A continuing project in the Klamath River Country Estates was funded in 2013, and will allow for fuel reduction along the major ingress/egress routes in the area; providing residents with escape routes in the event of a wildfire.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2013, there were a total of 44 ignitions in the Battalion which was up from 2012 due mostly to an increase in lightning activity. The Battalion and the Unit as a whole experienced an increase in lightning activity due to unfavorable weather conditions, which contributed to the second highest amount of acres burned in the Battalion. In 2012, debris burning was an issue contributing to a high percentage of ignitions and acres burned, but in 2013 the Battalion saw a decrease in debris burn escapes by utilizing better education techniques through public contacts, press releases, radio messages, and inspections. Equipment ignitions led the battalion in acres burned in 2013. Equipment ignitions can be attributed to operation during dry conditions, after 10 AM, operating on windy days, and without proper clearance. All other ignitions are within historical averages.

## 2013 SHASTA VALLEY BATTALION IGNITONS

2013 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	4	0.2
Lightning Fires	14	48.2
Campfires	0	0
Smoking	0	0
Illegal Burning	11	0
Debris Burning	2	2.2
Arson	1	0.1
Equipment Use	5	62
Playing With Fire	1	0.1
Vehicle	1	0.1
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	1	0.1
Miscellaneous/Other	4	0.5
<b>Total:</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>113.4</b>



## **Butte Valley/ Weed Battalion 2013-Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

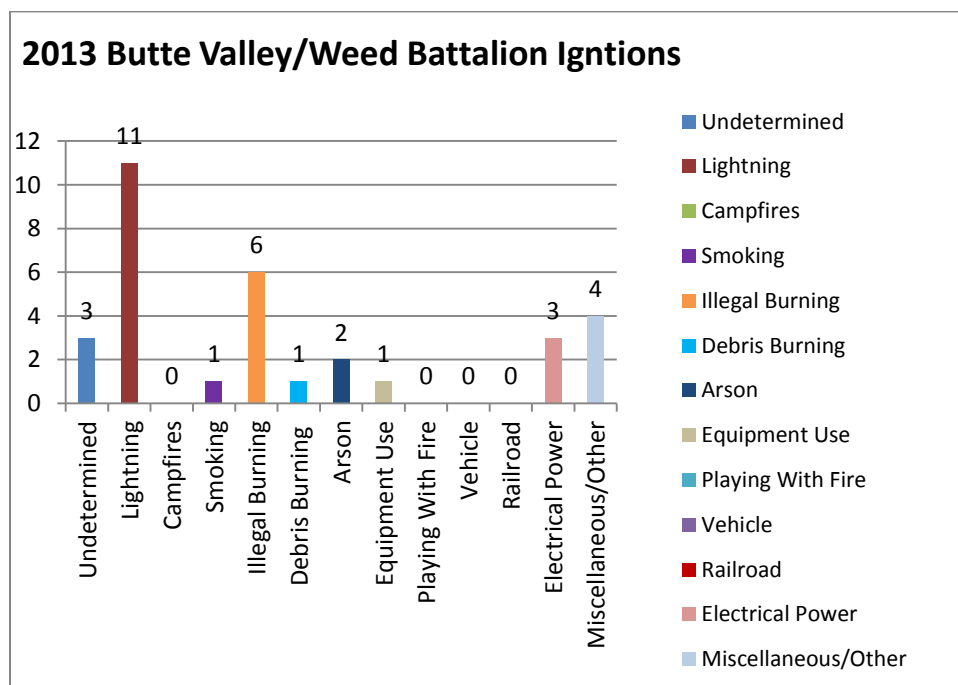
In 2013 the Butte Valley Battalion participated in the planning process for the South Weed Fuelbreak in Weed. It is anticipated that CAL FIRE handcrews from Deadwood Camp will complete the fuel reduction work for this project. This project will tie in projects from Sugar Pine Road to North Old Stage Road. CAL FIRE was involved in the planning process with the Lake Shastina Fire Safe Council to construct a gate and provide grading on an emergency access road through the Seldom Seen Ranch. This emergency access is for the residents of the Rancho Hills Community. Planning was also completed on a 13 acre fuelbreak on the Rancho Hills Association Lands. Community Outreach's within the Battalion continued in 2013. A fuelbreak was completed in the Pleasant Valley Subdivision and CAL FIRE assisted the Pleasant Valley Fire Safe Council in planning for a new grant within their subdivision. A 500 acre Vegetation Management Plan was also planned for the Ordway Ranch that partially burned in a wildfire several years ago.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2013, there were a total of 32 ignitions in the Battalion which was down from 2012. The Battalion and the Unit as a whole experienced an increase in lightning activity due to unfavorable weather conditions. In 2013, debris burning was an ignition problem contributing to six escaped fires. The burned acres associated with these debris burn escapes were 2.2 acres. Debris burning will be the focus of the prevention educational messages in the coming year. All other ignitions are within historical averages

## 2013 BUTTE VALLEY/ WEED BATTALION IGNITONS

2013 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	3	0.2
Lightning Fires	11	5.1
Campfires	0	0
Smoking	1	0.01
Illegal Burning	6	0
Debris Burning	1	.1
Arson	2	0.02
Equipment Use	1	0.1
Playing With Fire	0	0
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	3	0.07
Miscellaneous/Other	4	0.22
<b>Total:</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>5.82</b>



## **McCloud Battalion 2013-Ignition Analysis and Achievements**

### **Achievements**

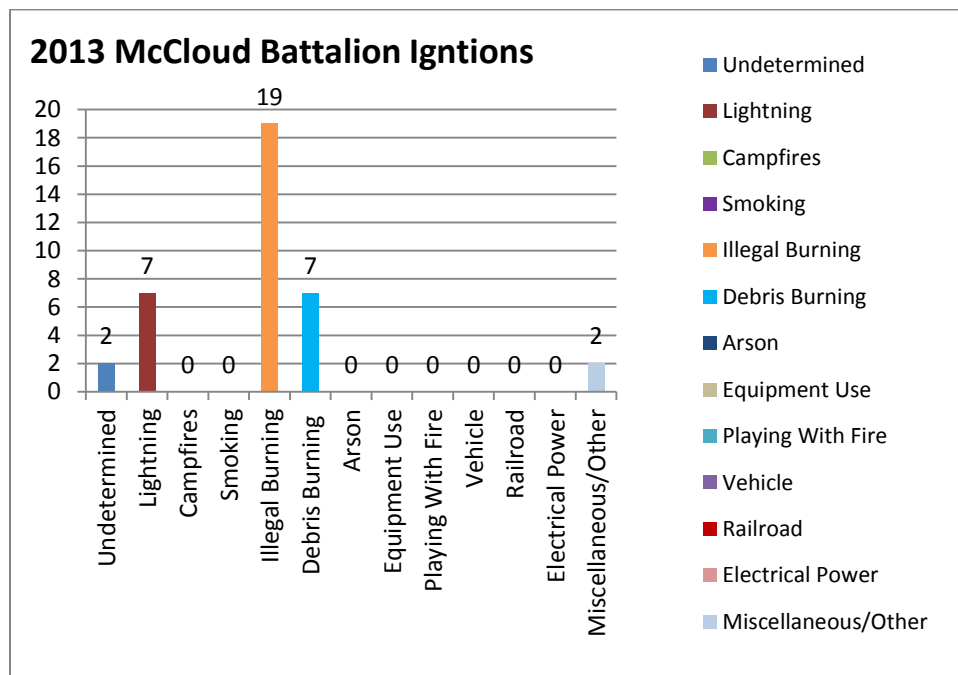
In 2013 the work was completed on the Azalea Fuelbreak. Due to the rapid growth of vegetation in this fuelbreak, plans were formulated to provide for necessary maintenance. The goal is to plant the fuelbreak with trees in order to shade out brush. The Battalion significantly increased the number of defensible space inspection in 2013. Collaboration continued with cooperators to maintain fire access into lightning prone areas. Battalion personnel participated and hosted numerous public outreaches to promote fire safety awareness. In addition, battalion personnel assisted fire safe councils with project planning and the coordination of Deadwood Crews for project implementation.

### **Ignition Analysis**

In 2013, there were a total of 37 ignitions in the Battalion which was up from 2012 due mostly to an increase in lightning activity and debris burning. The Battalion and the Unit as a whole experienced an increase in lightning activity due to unfavorable weather conditions which contributed to highest amount of acres burned in the Battalion. In 2013, debris burning and illegal burning increased slightly from 2012. All other ignitions were at historical levels.

## 2013 MCCLOUD BATTALION IGNITIONS

2013 Causes	Number by Causes	Acres Burned
Undetermined	2	0.03
Lightning Fires	7	2.35
Campfires	0	0
Smoking	0	0
Illegal Burning	19	0
Debris Burning	7	1.05
Arson	0	0
Equipment Use	0	0
Playing With Fire	0	0
Vehicle	0	0
Railroad	0	0
Electrical Power	0	0
Miscellaneous/Other	2	0.11
<b>Total:</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3.54</b>



## **ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2013)**

### **Fire Planning:**

In 2013 Fire planning occurred on the following CAL FIRE fuel reduction projects: Tamar Fuelbreak, East Weed Fuelbreak maintenance, Observatory Hill Fuel Reduction, Rancho Hills Fuels Reduction, South Weed Fuelbreak, White Rock Prescribed Fire, and Azalea Herbicide. CAL FIRE also assisted Fire Safe Councils in planning on the following projects: Black Mountain Phase III, Dunsmuir Fuel Connection, South Dunsmuir Fuel Reduction, Klamath River Phase II Fuel Reduction, and NE Mt. Shasta Fuelbreak. Prescribed work did not commence on the ground on these projects in 2013.

The planning and environmental review process is complete for two fire suppression water tanks which are awaiting construction. The water tanks will be located in the Pleasant Valley and Hammond Ranch subdivisions.

The West Weed Fuel Reduction project was active in 2013, but was not completed.

Ground work was completed on the following CAL FIRE fuel reduction projects in 2013: Azalea Fuelbreak and Soap Creek Fuelbreak. CAL FIRE assisted fire safe councils on the following projects: Black Mountain Phase II, SW Mt. Shasta Fuelbreak, and Pleasant Valley Escape Route.

Siskiyou Unit Personnel participated in the Siskiyou County Wildfire Protection Panel review of the Juniper Flat, Yreka and Lower Scott River Fire Safe Councils Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

### **Investigations and Enforcement:**

In 2013 the Siskiyou Unit investigated 186 total fires with various causes. The ignition analysis showed that control burn escapes were the major preventable cause of our fires last year. However we were able to reduce the amount by a third from the year before. In addition to control burn escapes, investigating illegal burning was a main activity for prevention investigators. Three fires within the Siskiyou Unit were determined to be caused by arson.

During the year, the Siskiyou Prevention Bureau took the following enforcement actions: 13 custodial arrests, 21 citations, 7 DA complaints, and 5 assists to local LE agencies. The Siskiyou Unit also processed 705 defensible space inspections for 2013 without citations having to be issued

During the Fourth of July Fireworks Patrol more than four thousand pounds of illegal fireworks were confiscated by Siskiyou fire prevention personnel constituting perhaps the largest confiscation of illegal fireworks ever in the Siskiyou Unit.

### **Wildland Fire Prevention Engineering:**

The Siskiyou Unit processed 103 building permits and 9 zoning changes and/or use applications in 2013.

### **Civil Cost Recovery:**

A total of 15 cost recovery cases were initiated in the Siskiyou Unit in 2013

### **Education and Information:**

Fire prevention and education programs were conducted throughout the year. These accomplishments included: 72 fire prevention displays/presentations, over 12,030 public contacts, and 2,600 contacts with students through school programs. There were over 150 media contacts made for fire information and/or prevention education. Our Fire Prevention Specialist was awarded a Director's Superior Accomplishment Award for her work in establishing a successful Fire PALS program that delivers fire safety messages to the youth of Siskiyou County.

### **Vegetation Management:**

Planning began on a 500 Acre Vegetation Management Program contract on the Ordway Ranch in Weed. The name of the project is the Shasta O Ranch VMP. Treatment will entail a combination of hand piling and burning, tractor piling and burning and prescribed burning.

### **Volunteerism:**

Volunteers in Prevention put in 1,439 hours of Fire Prevention activity within the Unit.

### **Fire Hazard Severity Mapping and Mitigation:**

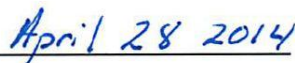
No Fire Hazard Mapping was conducted in 2013. Fuel reduction projects can be considered mitigations for fire hazard severity.

### **Other Fire Prevention Projects in SRA:**

Numerous hours of staff time was spent with outreaches to local and federal government cooperators. Staff hours were also spent aiding fire safe councils in their fire prevention efforts.



Unit Chief (Acting)  
Ron Bravo



Date